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## Money

Who will foot our pension bills!  
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**TODAY**

We extend warm wishes for a happy, peaceful and kosher Pessah to our readers, and to all the people of Israel  
 The management and staff of  
*The Jerusalem Post*

## Israel, Qatar to set up trade missions

DAVID MAKOVSKY  
 DOHA, QATAR

ISRAEL and Qatar pledged a new era of economic cooperation yesterday, announcing the formation of quasi-diplomatic, commercial missions in Doha and Tel Aviv in the weeks ahead.

After two hours of talks between Qatari Emir Sheikh Hamad bin-Khalifa and Prime Minister Shimon Peres at the mammoth marble palace in the capital, overlooking the Persian Gulf, top officials voiced confidence that economic links will bring mutual benefit.

In response to a question by *The Jerusalem Post* at a press conference concerning whether Israeli tourists would now be welcome in Qatar, Foreign Minister Sheikh Hamad bin-Jassam bin-Jaber al-Thani replied, while standing alongside Peres: "I cannot see any problems with that."

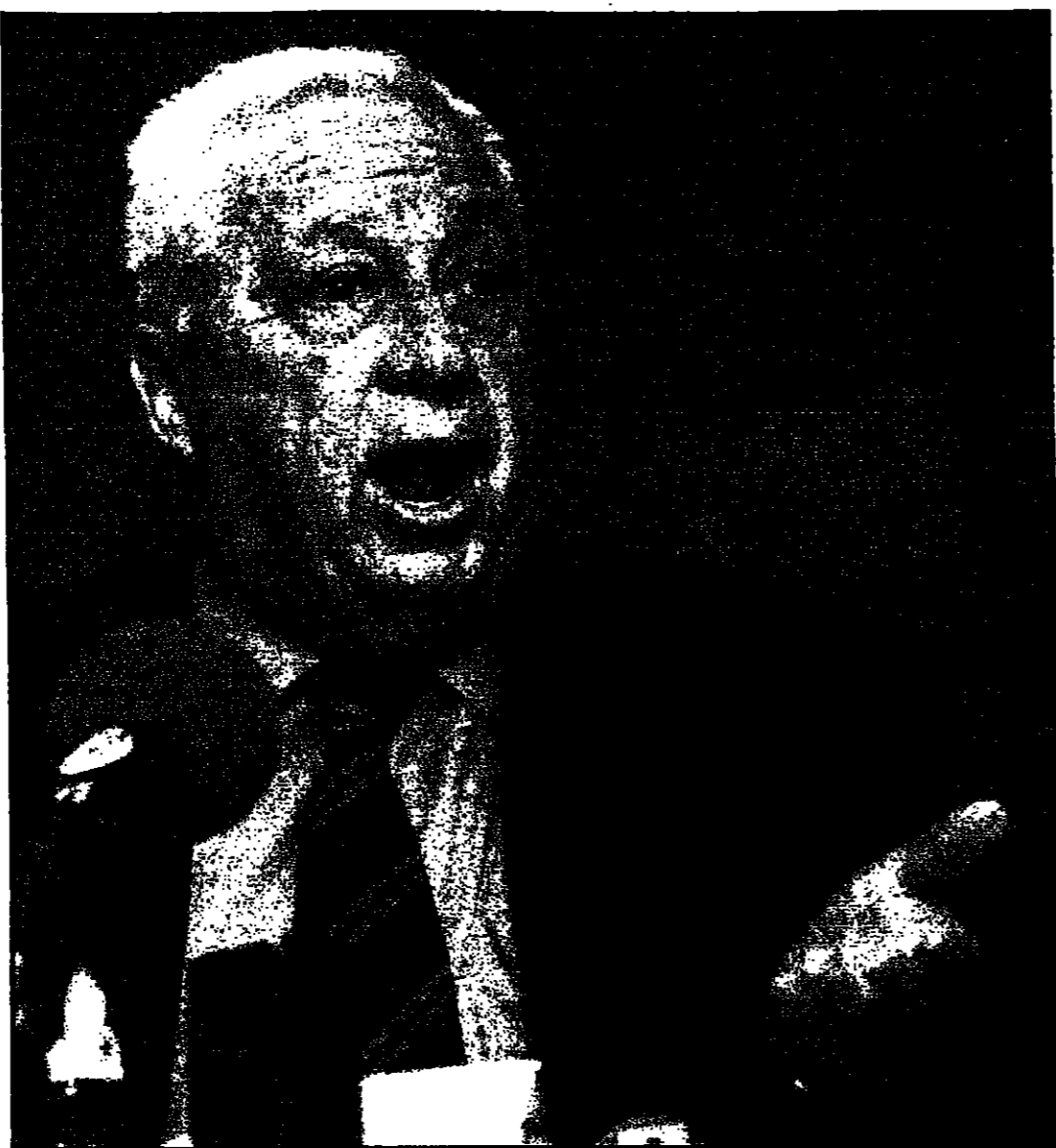
Peres said yesterday's achievement is significant since economic links are more important now than diplomatic ones since they bring the most tangible benefits to the public.

Bin-Jassam said he expected other Arab countries to follow Qatar in establishing peace with Israel. Asked if Peres's "New Middle East" was realistic, the foreign minister replied: "Yes, it is realistic, but it will take time." He then immediately added that Peres is doing "the right job" in promoting peace.

Perhaps as an indication that impacting upon the Arab public takes longer than changing the policies of an Arab regime, Qatari newspaper *al-Watan* published a poll that only 31 percent of Qatans favor immediate normalization with Israel.

Peres waxed enthusiastic about the red-carpet treatment he received in Qatar, which, like in Oman a day earlier, included full military honors and a military band playing "Hatikva" on arrival. Peres said he was "very excited" to be in Qatar.

At the press conference, Peres said three diplomats from each country would be deployed in the respective trade offices, which he said would deal with trade, industry, tourism and agriculture. He also announced that in order for joint ventures to proceed smoothly, the two sides would soon sign an economic agreement in the areas of double taxation and investment protection. A Finance Ministry delegation is expected in Qatar within a month to conclude the agreement, Finance Ministry Deputy Secretary General said.



MK Ariel Sharon speaks at a press conference yesterday during which he denied misleading former prime minister Menachem Begin about the aims of Operation Peace for Galilee. (AP)

## Begin: Sharon lied to my father about Lebanon

LIKUD MK Ariel Sharon lied when he said the government knew of his plan for the Lebanon War, according to a deposition MK Ze'ev Begin submitted to the Tel Aviv District Court that was made public yesterday.

The deposition was filed by the defense in the NIS 510,000 libel suit by Sharon against *Ha'aretz* over a May 1991 article. The article said "Menachem Begin knows very well that Sharon deceived him."

Sharon yesterday denied that he had lied to or misled Begin.

"For 14 years I have been hounded by this libel that I lied to Menachem Begin. I never lied to or deceived Menachem Begin. For 14 years this libel has been circulating in all the mass media," he told a press conference.

Jerusalem Post Staff and news agencies

Begin's deposition relates to a lecture Sharon gave at Tel Aviv University in 1987, marking five years since the start of the operation, in which Sharon allegedly said that when he brought the plans for Operation Peace for Galilee before the cabinet, it was understood that it would lead to Beirut.

In the deposition, Ze'ev Begin said he visited his father on August 14, 1987 and told him about the report on television about Sharon's lecture. "I told him that my conclusion from the report was that Sharon was trying to prove that Operation Peace for Galilee was planned from the beginning to bring IDF troops to Beirut," he said.

"It is not possible that Arik Sharon planned from the beginning to reach Beirut," Ze'ev Begin said his father responded, accord-

ing to the deposition.

Ze'ev Begin said he showed his father the pertinent part of the transcript of Sharon's talk, and the former prime minister was shocked. "He said that [in the talk] Sharon had in retrospect expanded the aims of the operation baselessly," the deposition said.

According to Ze'ev Begin, his father became very upset and, asserting that there was "no truth to the statements," angrily pointed out that he had himself informed the head of the opposition, the Knesset, and even the president of the US of the limited aims of the operation in Lebanon, the deposition added.

It continued, "Sharon confirmed in an article in *Ma'ariv* on August 21, 1987, that as defense minister he planned Operation Peace for Galilee to bring IDF troops to the alleyways of Beirut."

(Continued on Page 11)

## Ayalon, Dahlan meet in Gaza

SENIOR Israeli and Palestinian security officials, led by General Security Service chief Ami Ayalon and Palestinian Preventive Security chief Mohammed Dahlan, have held a series of meetings in Gaza recently to firm up cooperation, according to Israeli and Palestinian sources.

The latest meeting was at the end of last week, at the office of PA President Yasser Arafat. Those attending were Arafat, Ayalon, Dahlan, Palestinian police chief Razi Jabali, and Mussa Arafat, a senior security adviser to Arafat.

The sources described the meetings as a direct offshoot of the Sharm e-Sheikh anti-terror conference. CIA officers have also been present at a number of the meetings, aimed at improving cooperation between the security

BILL HUTMAN

forces, the sources said.

A senior Israeli security official said the meetings in themselves reflect a degree of improvement in relations between the Israeli and Palestinian security services. However, the official said, "there is still much distrust between the sides."

"The Palestinians have an interest today in showing that they are working to fight terror," the official said. "But we are still waiting to see real results. When they've caught [Izzadin Kassam commander Mohammed] Dief, and turned him over to us, then we know that they're for real," said the official.

"We agreed to have these meetings at Sharm e-Sheikh," Dahlan told *The Jerusalem Post*.

He described the meetings as "productive," and said the PA has met most of Israel's demands for cracking down on Hamas.

"We have detained 11 of the 13 persons on the wanted list given to us by Israel," Dahlan said in a telephone interview from his Gaza headquarters. Still at large are Dief, No. 1 on Israel's list, (Continued on Page 5)

## Sharon: I never deceived Menachem Begin

LIKUD MK Ariel Sharon yesterday repeated his stand that he had not lied to or misled prime minister Menachem Begin over the extent of planned action in Operation Peace for Galilee.

"For 14 years I have been hounded by this libel that I lied to Menachem Begin. I never lied to or deceived Menachem Begin. For 14 years this libel has been circulating in all the mass media," Sharon told a press conference, called after publication of depositions in Tel Aviv District

LIAT COLLINS

court in Sharon's libel case against *Ha'aretz* and reporter Uzi Benziman.

He told reporters that when he had presented the government with the plans for Operation Peace for Galilee he had not intended to reach Beirut. He said the government had been informed of every step in the campaign and had twice authorized the IDF to cross the 40 kilometer line. He said the government also

knew of IDF contingency plans to attack the terrorist headquarters in Beirut.

Sharon said Menachem Begin's son, MK Ze'ev (Benny) Begin, had misunderstood a lecture he had given at Tel Aviv University in 1987 marking five years since the start of the war in Lebanon.

"The basis of Benny Begin's statements is what he is convinced he heard me say in a lecture in 1987 which he imagined to (Continued on Page 5)

## Police, IDF on increased alert during holiday

HAIM SHAPIRO

THE police and army are to be on increased alert this Pessah due to an announcement by Hamas that it intends to continue committing acts of terror in Israel.

The announcement means that thousands of policemen, border policemen, Civil Guard volunteers, and soldiers are to be on duty throughout the holiday to ensure that the rest of the population can celebrate the week-long holiday safely. The police urged the public to report suspicious objects, individuals, or vehicles.

The police are also to take extra steps to enforce traffic regulations. The holiday is to begin tonight with the festive seder meal, at which the participants drink four cups of wine, ask the Four Questions, and retell the story of the Exodus from Egypt.

In homes around the country today, children and adults are to make final preparations to rid their homes of all *hametz*, or leavened products. (Continued on Page 5)

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Raanana: 112 Abuza St.

مكتبة الصلح

# Shahak: Hizbullah recruiting for more attacks in Lebanon

HIZBULLAH continues to recruit suicide bombers to operate in south Lebanon while Hamas continues to plan terror attacks in Israel, Chief of General Staff Lt. Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee yesterday, according to an official briefing. Shahak could not say whether the Hamas attacks are a deliberate attempt to influence the Israeli elections.

He also declined to state the reasons for IDF restraint in South Lebanon and refused to answer a question on whether the restraint

stemmed from political pressure. Shahak said morale in the South Lebanese Army is low because of uncertainty over the future. He said Israel is doing everything to restore security in South Lebanon but local residents feel threatened and SLA soldiers "are reaching their own conclusions."

He rejected criticism over IDF action in Yatar in south Lebanon over the weekend in which two people were killed. Hizbullah is claiming the two were innocent civilians, whereas Israel still has reason to believe the two were terrorists. Shahak said Israel had

LIAT COLLINS

received information from "reliable sources" that the two belonged to Hizbullah. He said the IDF soldiers had acted correctly and would fire again under the same circumstances. He said the IDF soldier on lookout had seen a group of five men, two of whom appeared to be armed.

"A soldier doesn't need the permission of the OC to fire at terrorists," he said. "But mistakes can be made because of

the realities of guerrilla warfare in which terrorists use the cover of civilians or UN soldiers to fire."

Shahak said there was no written agreement with Hizbullah and the understandings reached via the US and through them Syria, precluded action against villagers but not terrorists. He said Hizbullah was violating the understandings as Israel perceived them.

Regarding terrorism in the territories, Shahak said Israel has information that Hamas and Islamic Jihad still intend to carry

out attacks. He said the closure of Gaza is strict and causing serious economic hardship. There are plans to ease the transfer of goods, Shahak said but warned that the more goods allowed out of Gaza into Israel, the greater the risk that arms and explosives could be smuggled out. Unlike Gaza, the closure of Judea and Samaria is "shaky" and it is easier for a lone attacker to cross the Green Line from there. Even the allocation of NIS 260 million for a separation plan could not seal the area hermetically, Shahak said.

# PM: Referendum does not alter differences of Labor, Likud

DAVID MAKOVSKY, SARAH HONIG and news agencies

PRIME Minister Shimon Peres insisted yesterday that differences still remain between his Labor Party and the Likud in the upcoming election, despite his pledge on Monday to hold a national referendum before signing any final status agreements with the Palestinians on the disposition of the territories.

Peres told reporters during his plane ride from Oman to Qatar that he did not think the opposition's commitment to the peace process is genuine.

"Don't you understand that [the Likud] will bring another half million people to the settlements and this will bring the end to the peace process?" he said. "We won't add or take down settlements."

"The Likud says it won't talk to [Palestinian Authority President Yasser] Arafat, and we will. The Likud says it can charm [Syrian President Hafez] Assad, and not yield the Golan. I don't think this is the situation," Peres privately took the decision to hold the referendum within the last two weeks, and conveyed this to top aides, but did not announce it until Monday.

Peres and his aides seemed satisfied that remarks on holding a national referendum have caught the Likud off balance, believing they have deprived the Likud of its primary line of attack in the current campaign. The Likud's negative reactions to his pledge, Peres said, "is a sign that I am doing the right thing."

The Likud accused Peres of trying to "fool the public... The real

referendum will be the day of the elections," the party said in a statement.

Arafat was displeased with Peres's promise to hold a referendum, saying yesterday that it violates the Oslo accords. "This is completely against what had been agreed upon," Arafat told reporters in Gaza.

Peres said he didn't think his announcement should upset the Palestinians. "It sends them [a] message that we intend to go ahead with a permanent settlement," he said. "This is an internal affair of Israel's."

"There's no violation. We never said we wouldn't have a referendum," Peres continued, adding that Arafat should realize Israel is sincere about the final status talks.

The Likud last night accused Peres of "asking the nation for a mandate to doublecross us all, to cheat the entire population as soon as the elections are over."

Peres knows full well, according to the Likud communiqué, that his true platform is actually the Meretz platform, but that it will cause him to lose the upcoming elections, should the people know the truth. This is why he now seeks to conceal the fact that he will divide Jerusalem, establish a Palestinian state and bring the Syrians to the shores of Lake Kinneret. Peres causes people to lose even more faith in the credibility of politicians when he says to the nation: give me a mandate to cheat you."

# Hamas planning attacks to also punish PA

HAMAS warned yesterday that it might resume suicide attacks against Israelis to punish the Palestinian Authority for its campaign against Islamic fundamentalists.

A leaflet by its military wing, Izzadin Kassam, recommended reacting to "the crimes of the Arafat authority and the Zionists

by ... resuming the wonderful martyrdom operations and lighting a fire again in the heart of the Zionist state."

It accused the Palestinian police of torturing arrested militants and discounted any PA-Hamas dialogue conducted while 500 activists were in jail.

Imad Falouji, a Hamas-PA

JON IMMANUEL

mediator, has visited some of the senior Hamas leaders in jail, to try to reach an understanding that would permit their release.

Intra-Palestinian tensions also sharpened with the death Sunday of Tayseer Lawzi, a Fatah activist in Ramallah who was shot by PA

General Intelligence officers who said they mistook the passengers of the car he was in for fleeing Hamas activists distributing leaflets.

In its own leaflet Fatah warned that it had "decided to prohibit the activities of the General Intelligence apparatus in the area."

Meanwhile, Palestinian-Israeli tensions sharpened as hundreds demonstrated in Hebron yesterday against the postponement, due to the bombings, of Israel's withdrawal from the city under the terms of Oslo 2. The IDF was to have redeployed by the end of March.

Hebron is the strongest bastion of Hamas. One-third of those recently arrested are from Hebron, and Prime Minister Shimon Peres has little political incentive to hand over Hamas strongholds to PA control after accusing the PA of doing too little to combat Islamic radicals under PA authority. Making another dent in the peace process, PA leaders yester-

day condemned Peres's final settlement referendum idea, calling it "illegal. It would hold Palestinian land and rights hostage to a referendum of the Jewish people," said PA Finance Minister Mohammed Nashashibi, who accompanied Yasser Arafat to a ribbon-cutting ceremony for a new hotel.

Meanwhile, the ministerial committee on the closure consisting of Ministers Moshe Shahal, Yossi Sarid, Ya'acov Tzur and Deputy Minister Ori Orr, in a visit to the Erez checkpoint, said they would recommend increasing transport of Palestinian exports to Jordan and Egypt, replacing IDF with civilian security personnel to better check incoming trucks. Sarid said he would recommend increasing the entry of well-known, responsible and long-employed workers to Israel.

Unemployment in Gaza has virtually doubled since the closure from 50,000 to 90,000 of the 150,000 labor force, UN envoy Terje Larsen said Sunday.



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### SOCIAL & PERSONAL

THE WEEKLY MEETING of the English-speaking Jerusalem Rotary Club will NOT take place today at 1:00 p.m. Next meeting April 17. A happy Pesach, a happy Easter and a very happy New Year to the Bahai Community.

### BIRTH

Susie and Herb Keinon announce the birth of a son, Yair Simcha, born on March 6 in Jerusalem. Yair is the brother of Yona, Malka and Rafael.

# Begin-Sharon feud plays into Labor's hands

COMMENT SARAH HONIG

THE Likud leadership was dismayed yesterday over the fact that the festering 14-year-old feud between MKs Ze'ev (Benny) Begin and Ariel Sharon had surfaced full force a mere 57 days before the elections.

Party leaders did not know whether to attribute this to simple bad luck or to both Begin and Sharon's uncoordinated desire to each have the last word before

less of the cost to the cause they both avidly espouse. Whatever the answer, the two will come under the most severe pressure to cool their ardor to win their private points, lest both end up with the blame for the Likud's downfall. No matter what happens, it is

already clear that the ongoing Begin-Sharon battle is sure to hurt the Likud, though opinions differed on just how and how much.

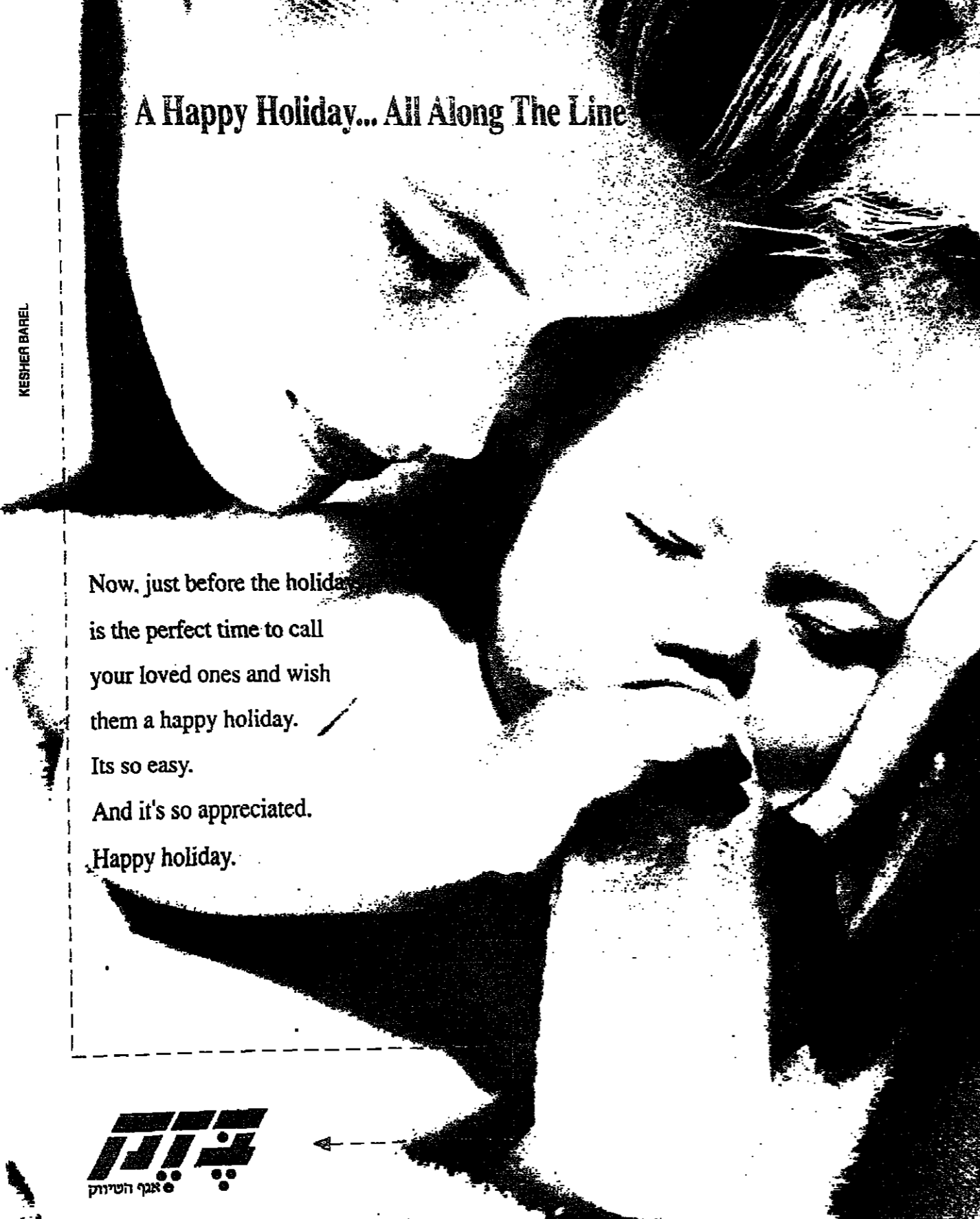
The most apparent and unavoidable damage lies in the fact that the squabbling duo produces juicy news copy which the media cannot resist and which will therefore divert attention from current events to the past.

Likud strategists believe this will play into Labor's hands in two ways. First, Labor will be happy not to deal with the current security situation and the increasing terrorist threat despite the Oslo accords, as well as with the entire matter of relations with the PLO. It is precisely to neutralize these issues and remove them from the electorate's agenda that Peres, according to the Likud, set up the referendum smokescreen. Causing the media to dwell on the events of 1982 is a godsend for Labor, as it serves a similar purpose as the referendum proposal without Labor having to take any initiative or incur any political risk.

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Second, the feud clearly hurts the Likud's image. The party is again portrayed as engaged in internecine combat, despite the fact that its own candidate for prime minister, Binyamin Netanyahu, is entirely uninvolved in the confrontation.

Within the Likud, the official line is that issues of 14 years ago are irrelevant now, and that the showdown for the premiership is between Netanyahu and Peres, not between Sharon and Begin. But be that as it may, this is an issue loaded with mud and it will be slung. The most immediate target will be Sharon, and what is slung at him will per force stick to the entire party. This is all the more so because Sharon emerged as so powerful a figure in the recent primaries, and because he had amassed so many points in his favor by bringing about the reconciliation that resulted in the Likud-Isomet-Gesher alignment.

The left will cheerfully point to Sharon's prominence in the Likud and declare that he is Netanyahu's candidate for a top ministerial office, perhaps even for the defense portfolio. The allegations against him, it will be claimed, make him unfit for a senior government position. It is with such an argument in mind that Meretz's Ran Cohen renewed his demand yesterday for an inquiry commission into Sharon's veracity during the Lebanon War. While all this may lead nowhere, the Likud does not now need to be put on the defensive and to allow Labor to deal with issues other than current ones.

Likud leaders warned yesterday that Labor had better beware before it makes the past an issue in the 1996 campaign. If 1982 is relevant, then the Likud will revive history as well, and will resort to Rabin's comments about Peres, to the fact that Peres is the sole surviving member of the failing Labor government from the Yom Kippur War still in office, and to the Histadrut corruption scandals. If this happens, the campaign ahead may prove even more volatile than had hitherto been feared.

מנהל האגף

NEWS IN BRIEF

Settlements get development funds

The Knesset Finance Committee yesterday authorized the transfer of some NIS 20 million to settlements in Judea, Samaria and Gaza and the Golan Heights for development and agricultural projects.

AACI asks for Pollard's release

The Association of Americans and Canadians in Israel (AACI) yesterday asked President Clinton to pardon Jonathan Pollard, serving a life term in the US for spying for Israel.

Victim of helicopter crash buried

Cpl. Doron Ezra, 20, of Rishon LeZion, was buried in the Rishon LeZion cemetery yesterday. Ezra was killed on Sunday when the IDF helicopter he was in suddenly crashed, killing seven soldiers and injuring two.

Robbers strike at bank in Arab village

Police were still searching last night for three robbers who burst into the office of the Mercantile Bank in Kafr Kanna, near Nazareth, and stole NIS 600,000 in cash yesterday.

IDF, SLA troops on full alert as zone fighting continues

DAVID RUDGE

IDF and South Lebanese Army troops are remaining on full alert along the northern border and in the security zone for the duration of the Pessah holiday, following continued fighting in south Lebanon yesterday.

Gunmen fired Sagger anti-tank missiles, mortars and RPG's at an SLA position in the Jezzine enclave north of the zone yesterday morning.

This followed shooting at another SLA outpost in the Ahi Tahr hill range, in the zone's eastern sector on Monday night and a roadside bomb attack against SLA troops in the Jezzine area earlier the same day.

There were no casualties in any of the incidents and IDF and SLA gunners returned fire.

The northern border has been relatively calm, since Hizbullah's Katyusha rocket attacks on the Galilee late Saturday night in retaliation for the deaths of two Lebanese civilians by IDF tank fire.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres has expressed the belief that the border will remain quiet, at least over the Pessah holiday, following the intervention of the US and because of the scheduled visit to Lebanon on Thursday by French President Jacques Chirac to Lebanon.

The French President is due to meet with Lebanese leaders and is also scheduled to visit UNIFIL's headquarters in Nakoura, inside the security zone, on Friday.

Nevertheless, the security zone continues to be a likely target for attacks by gunmen including Hizbullah, which has vowed that the rocket attacks on the Galilee were not its final word in terms of retaliation for the deaths of the Lebanese civilians near Yatar village, north of the zone, on Saturday afternoon.

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Prime Minister Shimon Peres has expressed the belief that the

Building work halted on Har Homa neighborhood

INFRASTRUCTURE work on the Har Homa neighborhood in southeastern Jerusalem was halted by police yesterday, after the illegal activity was discovered by Peace Now activists.

A court order issued earlier this week forbade work to begin on the controversial project - a new Jewish neighborhood at a site annexed to Jerusalem after the Six Day War - at least until May 15.

The District Planning Committee is supposed to hold new hearings on the project before that date. The Peace Now-affiliated Ir Shalem group and Arab and Jewish owners whose

lands were expropriated for the neighborhood petitioned the court to make the committee review the project.

Mossi Raz, director of Ir Shalem, visited the site Monday afternoon in preparation for a tour by Meretz MKs there yesterday, and discovered the work. He said he filed a complaint with police, who then came to the scene and ordered the work halted.

"I am not positive who is behind it, but the whole thing really stinks," Raz said. "I can't imagine who in the [Jerusalem] Municipality or Housing Ministry

would give permission for work to begin in violation of a court order."

The city spokesman said the workmen at the site were not connected with the municipality. The ministry spokesman also denied any connection with the work. Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert, meanwhile, yesterday charged that the Palestinian Authority had begun using an unfinished sewage line in Bethlehem whose run-off was polluting a wide area of southern Jerusalem.

Olmert, in a letter to Environment Minister Yossi Sarid, warned that the sewage could hurt the area water supply.

BILL HUTMAN

Court orders party registrar to reconsider allowing Tibi's list to run in elections

THE Supreme Court yesterday ordered the party registrar to reexamine his decision to permit Dr. Ahmed Tibi's Arab Movement for Change Party to participate in the upcoming elections, citing a conflict of interest between Tibi's role as an adviser to Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat and his running for Knesset.

Justices Yitzhak Zamir, Mishael Cheshin and Zvi Tal ruled that the registrar should reexamine documents supplied by petitioner Meron Isaacson against Tibi's party, in light of new documents that had been submitted. These include those from the Palestinian Authority Finance Ministry ordering the transfer of money to funds Tibi supposedly heads, and which are involved in the purchase of land in eastern

Jerusalem and support of Arab parties within the Green Line.

The court asked the registrar to submit a new opinion on the matter at a second hearing to be held Monday.

A spokesman for Tibi said his party's representatives were "surprised when they were shown new documents not presented to them before the hearing." He added that the new documents constitute "old material which has been published in the Israeli press several times before. It has been proven to be forged, as it contains spelling errors and forged signatures." He added that all the relevant Palestinian bodies had dissociated themselves from the documents.

Mordechai named to head Likud campaign headquarters

SARAH HONIG

POLITICAL novice Maj.-Gen. (res.) Yitzhak Mordechai was yesterday put in charge of the Likud campaign headquarters, in a move geared towards reaping the benefits of his popularity, proved when he finished first in last week's Likud Knesset primaries.

Likud leader Binyamin Netanyahu yesterday rejected criticism that Mordechai was too new to the political scene to be much good at running a campaign. "The energy and enthusiasm he brings will more than make up for lack of political experience. Besides he will not be alone but will be accompanied by seasoned campaigners," he said.

But the man who came in second in the primaries - directly after Mordechai - MK Ariel Sharon, got no particular assignment in the campaign team. He will take part in the steering committee which will operate alongside Mordechai and which will draw up the campaign policy.

This committee will be headed by Netanyahu and, apart from Mordechai and Sharon, will also include Sharon's nemesis MK Ze'ev (Benny) Begin, Jerusalem

Mayor Ehud Olmert, Tsomet leader Rafael Eitan, Geshet leader David Levy, and MKs Dan Meridor and Moshe Katsav, as well as former defense minister Moshe Arens.

Levy will head a personal campaign headquarters and will be expected to tour the country and, in particular, campaign in development towns.

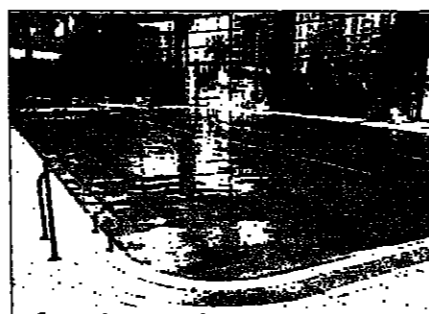
Olmert will head the campaign responses team, while Meridor was put in charge of a strategy team which will "produce policy guidelines for the new government," according to his job description. Arens was put in charge of a team on economic issues and MK Limor Livnat will head the information drive. Eitan will head a special campaign geared to immigrants from the former USSR. Campaign organization has been entrusted to Reuven Rivlin and the actual election day effort to MK Uzi Landau. MK Eliahu Ben-Eliassar will chair the committee entrusted with producing a new platform, while MK Tzahi Hanegbi will represent the Likud in the central elections committee.



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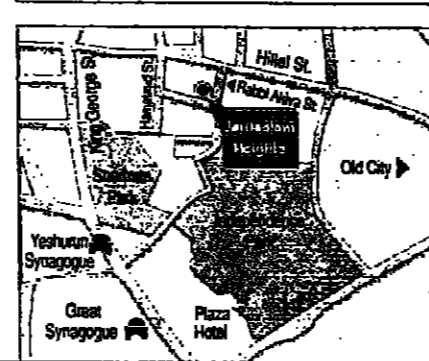
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Swimming Pool

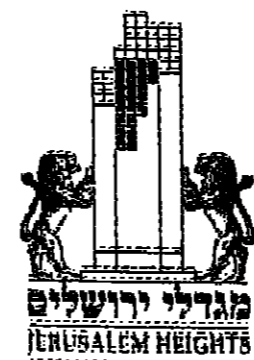


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Handwritten text in Hebrew: מנהל האזור

## Russians shell Chechen rebels

GEKHI, Russia (Reuter) - Russian forces said yesterday that they were sticking to President Boris Yeltsin's plan to end their offensive in Chechnya but ruled out an early troop withdrawal as they shelled rebel strongholds.

The sound of artillery fire came from Orekhovo and Bamut in the foothills of southwest Chechnya. People in nearby Gekhi said the Russians had also used planes and helicopters against rebels holed up in the two villages.

Refugees were reported to be fleeing other villages in the south-east after the Russians were said to have attacked them with multiple-launch "Grad" rockets.

Yeltsin, running for a second term in Russia's June 16 presidential election, ordered a halt on Sunday to almost 16 months of "military operations," and said a stage-by-stage withdrawal of troops from stable regions of Chechnya was beginning.

But, aware that the rebels were unlikely to give up their fight for independence, he promised to hit back hard against "terrorist actions."

On Monday a spokesman for rebel leader Dzhokhar Dudayev dismissed the plan as a pre-election stunt, and the head of Russian land forces in Chechnya told Itar-Tass news agency that troops could not be withdrawn yet.

"The withdrawal of military units from remote regions of Chechnya to its administrative border and beyond is scheduled to start no earlier than the end of April," the agency said, quoting the commander, Vladimir Semenov. About 80 percent of the forces would eventually be pulled out but some interior and defense ministry troops would remain behind in Grozny, he said.

Interfax news agency quoted Russian forces as saying there had been no active military operations in Chechnya overnight but that rebels had attacked their checkpoints in Grozny eight times.



Russian President Boris Yeltsin and Belarus President Alexander Lukashenko drink a traditional toast of vodka yesterday to mark the signing of their treaty, which establishes a Community of Sovereign Republics. (Reuter)

## Russia, Belarus sign pact forming new union

RUSSIA and Belarus, taking a fast track towards integration, signed a wide-ranging treaty yesterday, creating a tight-knit community within the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).

More than four years after the break-up of the Soviet Union, presidents Boris Yeltsin and Alexander Lukashenko took one of the biggest steps yet towards picking up the pieces by forming a Community of Sovereign Republics (CSR).

The treaty, signed at a lavish ceremony in the Kremlin's St. George's Hall, may strike a chord with many Russians nostalgic for the past and disenchanted with reforms that have led to widespread hardship and an explosion in crime and corruption.

Yeltsin certainly hopes it will. He is facing a strong challenge from Communist Party leader Gennady Zyuganov in a June 16 presidential election, and a major plank of his rival's platform is voluntary restoration of the Soviet Union.

At the stroke of a pen, Yeltsin and Lukashenko established a new layer of supra-national bodies to steer their two countries towards monetary union and a common market, coordinated foreign policy and cooperation in defense and crime-fighting.

"An historic moment has arrived in relations between the Russian Federation and Belarus," Yeltsin said before the signing, which was shown live on Russian television. The agreement was blessed by Russian Orthodox Patriarch Aleksiy II.

"This document opens a qualitatively new stage in the history of our two brotherly peoples," Yeltsin said before joining in celebrations in the Kremlin's Cathedral Square. The two leaders later toasted the deal with vodka at a banquet.

The CSR, whose Russian acronym SSR is only one letter short of a now-defunct superpower, is the latest mini-alliance to spring from the 12-member CIS, which has failed to bring about significant integration despite numerous accords.

Yeltsin and Lukashenko made clear that their pact would neither undermine their countries' sovereignty nor weaken the CIS a loose grouping compared by one Russian newspaper to a "matryoshka" doll with smaller

dolls inside. Russian nationalist Sergei Baburin said the only thing he disapproved of in the treaty was the lack of the word "union."

"All these communities and commonwealths are like a civil marriage, not one blessed by God," he told reporters.

The creation of the CSR, which is open to other states, followed a four-nation cooperation accord signed last Friday between Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan.

The agreement between Russia, with its population of 150 million, and Belarus, which has 10 million citizens, calls for alignment of their monetary and budget systems and creation of conditions for introducing a common currency. (Reuter)

## Perry says US to sell 21 F-16 fighters to Egypt

CAIRO (Reuter) - The United States will sell 21 new F-16 fighters to Egypt to bolster the force of a key player in Middle East peace, US defense Secretary William Perry said yesterday.

Perry, speaking to reporters aboard his aircraft en route from Albania to Cairo for high-level talks, said he would discuss a sale for Egypt's air force "which will be an additional 21 F-16s." He did not put a price on the jets, built by Lockheed Martin Corp., but said Egypt would pay for them with part of the \$1.3 billion in military aid which Washington will give to

Cairo this year. "Without question, the security relationship with Egypt is very important," said Perry. "It is one of the keys to the security and stability in the Middle East."

Egypt already has 160 F-16s in its air force, and the sale is part of Washington's continuing effort to support moderate Arab states in the region. Perry announced in January that the United States would provide 16 F-16s to Jordan, the only other Arab state besides Egypt that has made peace with Israel.

Perry is expected to hold talks

today with President Hosni Mubarak and will also meet Defense Minister Mohammed Hussein Tantawi.

The defense secretary told reporters he would discuss a wide range of issues, including terrorism and what he termed Libya's chemical weapons program. "Our assessment is they have a very active, large program to develop chemical weapons. It is a program which is being expanded today," he said, when asked about reports that a large underground chemical weapons complex was being built near Tripoli.

## California police club suspects near Mexico border

LOS ANGELES (Reuter) - Two suspected illegal immigrant smugglers were clubbed repeatedly by police on Monday following a high-speed freeway chase that started near the US-Mexico border.

The incident, captured on videotape by a TV news helicopter hovering overhead, showed one officer delivering at least six blows with a night-stick to one suspect even after the man was lying face down on the ground.

The officer then grabbed the second suspect, a woman, by the hair, pulling her from the cab of the pickup and beating her with his night-stick as reinforcements arrived to handcuff the pair, who appeared to offer no resistance. At least one other officer struck the woman, the TV images showed.

The Riverside County sheriff's deputies' action came after a battered, rusty pickup, crammed with at least 20 men and women, was pursued by several police cars at speeds approaching 160 kph along a major southern California freeway.

The two deputies involved in the beatings were suspended from

active duty and placed on "administrative leave," pending the outcome of an investigation, sheriff's department officials said. Their names were not released.

Local civil rights leaders said the incident evoked memories of the 1991 videotaped beating of black motorist Rodney King by four white Los Angeles police officers. The officers' acquittals on state charges in 1992 touched off bloody riots in Los Angeles.

"We are making a call on the Justice Department and the Immigration and Naturalization Service for a full-scale inquiry into the use of force, the baton swinging and the beating of people," said Luke Williams, executive director of the Los Angeles Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights.

Sheriff's Department spokesman Mark Lohman said the action would be investigated.

Citing an "outrage from the public" about the videotaped beatings, Lohman told reporters: "We're very embarrassed and we are seriously concerned about the actions of our officers."

Local television stations were flooded with calls from people who expressed outrage.

## Despite criticism, far-right policies gain popularity in France

PARIS (AP) - Twenty-eight percent of the French agree with policies championed by the far-right National Front, though 71 percent consider the party a danger to democracy, a poll revealed yesterday.

The National Front's influence has jumped nine percentage points since January 1994, when 19 percent of those questioned said they agreed with the ideas of

its leader Jean-Marie Le Pen. The poll, conducted by the Sofres research institute and published by the *Le Monde*, questioned 1,000 people between March 26 and 28.

Forty-six percent of the French believe the National Front has gained ground since conservative Jacques Chirac became president last May. Chirac has since turned from a populist campaign to

## G7 charts new course on jobs, sees no miracle cure

LILLE, France (Reuter) - The Group of Seven leading industrial nations said yesterday that economic growth was crucial to reduce unemployment, but structural reforms and better core labor standards were also necessary.

Economy and labor ministers agreed after a two-day conference that there was no universal cure for the G7's 22 million jobless, and tried to chart a new course between Anglo-Saxon free-marketeters and more interventionist Europeans.

French President Jacques Chirac had called the meeting of G7 nations the United States, Canada, Britain, Italy, Germany, Japan and France to help beat unemployment in face of technological change and global trade liberalization.

"Strong growth will undoubtedly help to reduce unemployment. But much will still remain to be done to address the structural problems which impede job creation and income growth," said a final statement by the French hosts in the city of Lille.

Ministers urged better core labor standards worldwide, called for a study of their ties to international trade, and reaffirmed their commitment to pursuing open trading policies.

"To that end, we call on trade ministers to maintain the momentum of trade liberalization through the World Trade Organization (WTO) at the WTO ministerial conference in Singapore in December."

"We also note the importance of enhancing core labor standards around the world, and examining the link between these standards

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Tickets available at the Jerusalem Post Book Dept., 10 HaKfar Koch St., or at the door.

## EU Commission proposes moves to ease beef crisis

LUXEMBOURG (Reuter) - European Farm Commissioner Franz Fischler proposed two measures yesterday to ease a consumer crisis sparked by mad cow disease-tainted British beef.

Britain, forced into a prospect of killing millions of its cattle in order to win back frightened customers, has turned to the European Union for help, promised at a Turin summit last week.

Pressured by EU farm ministers, Fischler offered to buy 50,000 tons of EU beef this month to support the mad cow-stricken market.

He also offered to suspend temporarily a ceiling on carcass weight as one of a series of mea-

sures the ministers, in a second day of emergency talks, were studying to stamp out a crisis that has crippled beef markets in Britain and elsewhere in the EU.

"It will be a temporary derogation for April only," a commission spokesman said, adding that the commission would study the effect on prices of the beef intervention buying before deciding whether to extend it beyond this month.

The proposed rule change headed an array of measures in a draft plan to shore up a badly-shaken beef market, eradicating bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) and persuading consumers that it will no longer be allowed to seep into the human food chain.

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**Judy and the family**  
On the passing of her  
**Father** ז"ל

**JCT**  
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**Anne & Isidore Falk**  
**Micro-Electronics Wing**  
Sunday, 18 Nissan (April 7th 1996) at 5:00 PM,  
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In the presence of  
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**Mr. Teddy Kollek**  
and the participation of  
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- The public is invited -

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April 6 at 20:30  
(No refreshments served)

Admission NIS 35; NIS 30 to Museum members, olim, students, soldiers & seniors.  
Proceeds benefit The Jerusalem Post funds.

Next Concert, April 13 at 21:15  
"Deliz String Quartet" playing Beethoven



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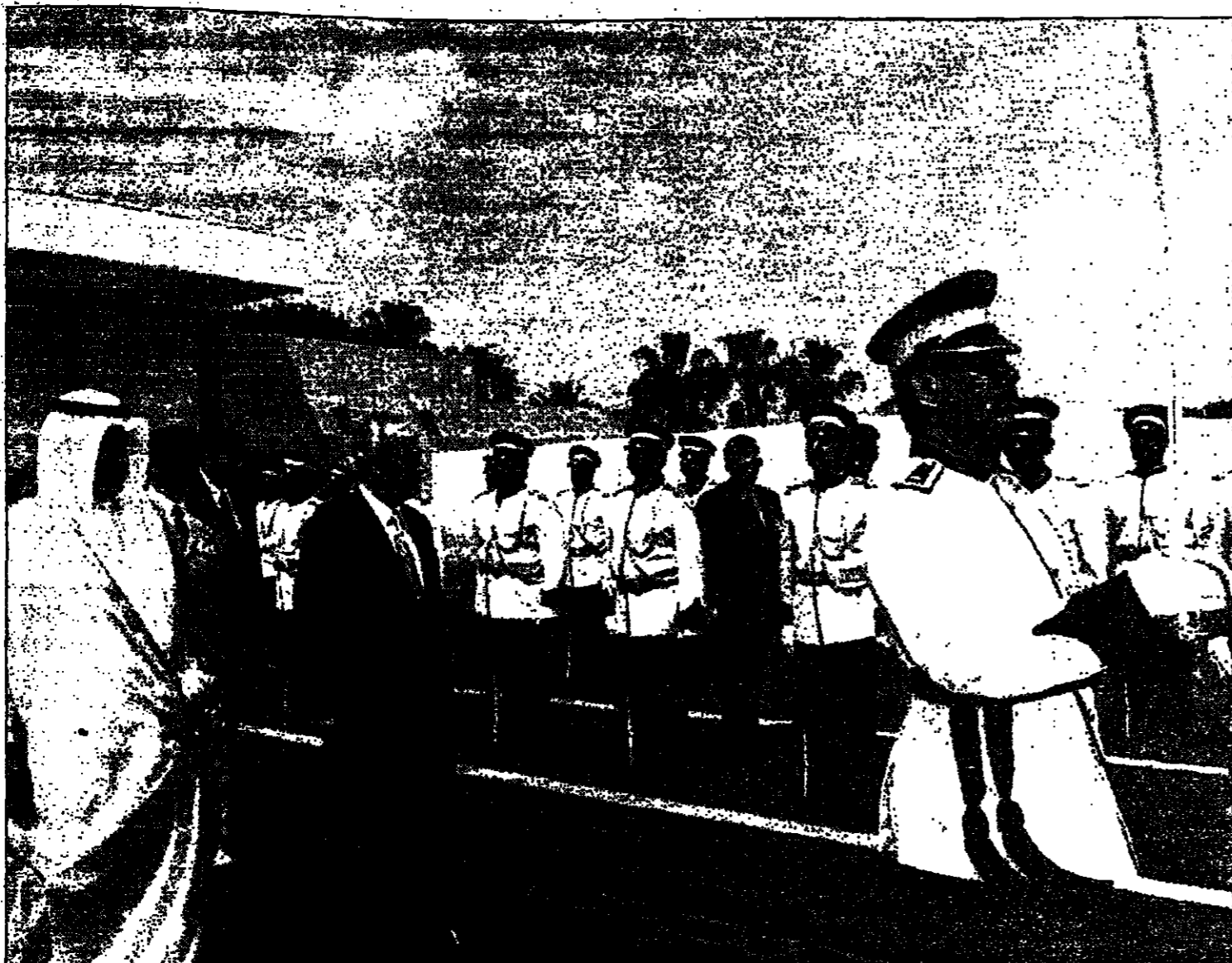
## Door prizes at The Jerusalem Post Handicrafts Fair

The Goldberg Sports Hall  
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- 1ST PRIZE: Return trip to London  
Courtesy of Ophir Tours
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- 3RD PRIZE: Day Tour  
Courtesy of Shorashim
- 4TH PRIZE: Dinner for two at the Twelve Tribes Restaurant  
Sheraton Tel Aviv
- 5TH PRIZE: Dinner for two at the Bistro Restaurant  
Laromme Hotel
- 6TH PRIZE: Lunch for two at the Milk and Honey Restaurant  
Hilton Tel Aviv
- 7TH PRIZE: Dinner for two at the Primavera Restaurant  
Sheraton Jerusalem Plaza Hotel
- 8TH PRIZE: 100 shekel gift voucher  
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- 9TH PRIZE: 100 shekel gift voucher  
Hatza'atzua, Jerusalem
- 10TH PRIZE: Video of the Israel Philharmonic  
Masada Concert with Zubin Mehta

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Winners will be announced in  
The Jerusalem Post on Friday, April 12

Handwritten signature or note in a box.



Prime Minister Shimon Peres, accompanied by Qatar Deputy Prime Minister Sheikh Abdullah bin Khalifa al-Thani (left), reviews an honor guard during his visit to Qatar yesterday. (Avi Ohayon/GPO)

# Israel, Oman to post trade delegations

DAVID MAKOVSKY  
DOHA, Qatar

OMAN will open a trade delegation in Ramat Gan in the next several weeks, Israeli officials said at the end of Prime Minister Shimon Peres's visit to that state.

Israeli diplomat Oded Ben-Haim, who works in the Foreign Ministry's economic division, will be posted to head Israel's trade office in the Omani capital of Muscat in the next few weeks, the officials also said. They added that Israel's trade delegation will

operate as a de facto diplomatic mission. Speaking to reporters on the plane from Oman to Qatar, Peres said he raised the fate of downed navigator Ron Arad with Omani Sultan Qaboos Bin Said al-Said at a dinner that the Omanis held Monday night. Though he said he was hesitant to discuss any Iran-related matters due to Omani sensitivities, Peres said he decided to raise the issue given the good ties that exist between Oman and Israel.

### Winning numbers

In last night's weekly Payis Hazak drawing, the holder of ticket number 265669 won NIS 1 million, while ticket number 700165 was good for a new car. Those holding tickets 109007, 522564, 138052, 581511, 355376, 365244, 140845, and 497151 all won NIS 5,000, while tickets ending in 74799, 69205, 37314, 57633, 32403, 21602, 22009, 30437, 47580, 91580, 76132, 72569, 48230, 31576, 00254, 20340 36354, 00797 and 01451 were good for NIS 1,000. Those holding tickets ending in 892, 047 456 and 609 won NIS 100, while tickets ending in 66, 76, 97, and 65 were good for NIS 30, in 66 and 95 for NIS 20 and in 2 and 8 for NIS 10.

# QATAR

(Continued from Page 1)  
rector-General David Brodet said.

Officials say one likely joint venture is the linking of the petro-chemical industries of both states. Israeli officials said they were surprised by the eagerness of the Qatari officials to quickly exchange business delegations, and proceed with cooperation.

There was no movement on a proposed natural gas deal involving Qatar and the American energy company Enron. Israeli officials insist that a gas deal will go ahead with Qatar, although it remains far from certain that Enron will be the company to facilitate due to price concerns.

Israel's needs within a decade are put at eight million tons of natural gas, and it hopes to obtain about a quarter of that amount from Egypt via a \$600 million pipeline to be established along the Mediterranean coast.

Peres's visit was very prominently featured, along with his picture, on the front of all the Qatari newspapers.

Before leaving, Peres received a gift from his Qatari hosts: a large gold sword with an ivory handle. He also toured Doha and a local museum.

# DECEIVED

(Continued from Page 1)

be different from the government's statement and other things presented in public. He told the late Menachem Begin of this imaginary contadiction and [Menachem] Begin said, 'If that's the case, it's not right.' From this Benny Begin concludes that I misled Menachem Begin. You should note in particular that Benny Begin has not said that he heard from his father that I misled him and the conclusion [that I did] is Benny Begin's conclusion."

Sharon said the claim that he had misled Menachem Begin had not arisen before the lecture in 1987. He said he trusted the court would discover the truth.

MK Ze'ev (Benny) Begin refused to discuss the case with reporters and would only say: "I did my best to avoid the need to present a deposition, but like any citizen I have to fully comply with a court order."

MK Ran Cohen (Meretz) demanded a parliamentary commission of inquiry into Sharon's actions during the Lebanon War.

# Assad defends Hizbullah attacks

DAMASCUS (Reuters) - Syrian President Hafez Assad defended Lebanese resistance against Israel and accused Israel of escalating the situation in south Lebanon.

Speaking at a joint news conference with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak after talks in Damascus yesterday, Assad said Israel was not abiding by an agreement with Hizbullah to stop shelling civilian targets.

But the Syrian leader said in response to a question on whether Syria had tried to persuade Hizbullah to stop shelling northern Israel that it had stopped shelling.

"Yesterday and the day before things looked more quiet from the Lebanese side while from the Israeli side it was more noisy and more provocative to the Lebanese in the south and outside the south," Assad said.

Hizbullah gunmen fired Katyusha rockets into northern Israel overnight on Saturday in response to Israeli shelling that killed two Lebanese civilians.

Israel and Hizbullah have an unwritten agreement

not to harm civilians, with the implied threat that when one side does, retaliation may follow against non-combatants on the other side.

Israel went into a flurry of diplomatic activity on Saturday after two young Lebanese men were killed in what it called a mistake.

"It is difficult for a person, regardless of whether he is an Arab or not, to say to the one who is defending his land that he is wrong or to say that he is a terrorist and demand others condemn this person because he is practicing what they claim is terrorism," Assad said.

Assad's spokesman, Joubran Kourieh, said the talks between Mubarak and Assad covered south Lebanon, the suspended Syrian-Israeli peace talks, and reports of a possible leak from the Dimona nuclear reactor.

Asked how the Syrian-Israeli negotiations could be reactivated, Assad said Israel was responsible for their suspension. He said chances for peace were getting increasingly dim, but that the door for a settlement was not closed.

(Continued from Page 1)

# AYALON

and Yihye Al-Ghoul, another senior Kassam member. Dahalan said.

Dahalan said his force's interrogation of Hamas detainees has revealed that a Hamas splinter group has been carrying out terror attacks independently of Izzadin Kassam since September 1993, just after the Oslo Accords were signed.

The group is called El Jihad Al-Sira, or "The Secret Underground," and is controlled by Hamas officials outside of the Palestinian and administered territories, Dahalan said. He said 70

members of the underground have been detained in recent weeks.

"This group is very dangerous," Dahalan said, adding that in addition to the arrests, weapons and explosives caches belonging to the underground have been uncovered in the PA crackdown.

The Palestinian security chief strongly denied reports he was holding secret talks with Dief before the recent wave of suicide attacks, in hopes of reaching an agreement between Izzadin Kassam and the PA.

"These reports were spread by someone. I was not meeting with Dief. I only met with his deputy, Abdal Satiereh, who we have since arrested," said Dahalan, who vowed that Dief would be also be detained soon.

Dief, according to Dahalan, has not fled the area and is likely hiding out in Gaza or the territories.

As proof he is not close to Dief, Dahalan presented the Izzadin Kassam leaflet released yesterday threatening not only renewed attacks in Israel, but also attempts on the lives of Dahalan himself and other PA security officers.

(Continued from Page 1)

# HOLIDAY

Candle lighting for the holiday is at 6:24 p.m. in Jerusalem and 6:40 in Tel Aviv. Tomorrow night, the holiday finishes at 7:38 in Jerusalem and 7:40 in Tel Aviv.

The deadline for eating the last hametz is 10:05 a.m. for Ashkenazim and 9:39 according to the

tradition of Middle Eastern Jews. The deadline for burning hametz is 11:23 for Ashkenazim and 10:51 for those from Middle Eastern communities.

Yesterday Sephardi Chief Rabbi Eliahu Bakshi-Doron and Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi Yisrael Lau

officially sold all hametz belonging to the government and public institutions to a non-Jew, Faisal Abu Saud, from the Jerusalem neighborhood of Atarot. According to the accepted usage, at the end of the holiday Abu Saud is to communicate his inability to complete the purchase and it will be declared invalid.

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Dates: Wednesday-Thursday, May 8-9  
 Guides: Israel Shalom  
 Price: NIS 500, sharing a double room, includes transportation from Jerusalem and Tel Aviv and return, entrance to all sites, explanatory lectures and guiding, and breakfast accommodation overnight at four-star Beit Yava, Moshav Sarcel Zion.

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Center for Conservative Judaism

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 (Tourists welcome)

on  
**"A Preview of the Elections"**

Monday evening, April 8, 1996, 5:30 p.m.  
 (19 Nissan 5756)

2 Agron Street, Jerusalem (opposite Supersol).

Speaker: Rabbi Dr. Pesach Schindler  
 Director of the Center for Conservative Judaism

**Passover at the Eretz-Israel Museum**  
 Sunday, April 7 & Monday, April 8, 1996  
 10:00am - 5:00pm

Guided Tour in the museum's pavilions.  
 12:00pm. Meeting at the museum's entrance.

A new exhibition - "Islamic Metal Work"  
 Authentic work of artisans from Damascus 11:00am - 5:00pm

Traditional Market Place at "Men & His Work" Center.  
 Watching the weaver, ceramic maker etc.  
 10:30am, 11:30am, 12:30pm, 13:30pm 14:30pm, 15:30pm

"Had-Gadia"  
 A unique happening for youngsters, creating the ten figures of "Had-Gadya" from recycled materials  
 10:00am - 2:00pm

"From Pesach to Passover"  
 A theatrical story-hour for children (from age 5) accompanied by real "Kletzners" - traditional players.  
 12:00pm, 13:30pm (in Hebrew)

Fun & games for little ones  
 Giant balloons, parachutes and spring games for children (up to 8 years old)  
 10:00am - 2:00pm

Charms of Beauty in Ancient Times  
 Audio-visual program (15 min.) depicting fashion & cosmetics of the past.  
 11:30am, 13:30pm

PLANETARIUM  
 Voyage to the Universe - 11:00am, 12:00am, 2:00pm, 3:00pm  
 UFO's - Reality or Imagination? - 1:00pm, 4:00pm  
 (The program is in Hebrew)

For details tel: 03-6413217 / 6415244, ext. 79, 62.  
 For further information contact the museum  
 2 Levanon St., Tel Aviv.  
 Fax: 03-6412408, Tel: 03-6415244

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Admission NIS 10  
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 Children under 12 with parents FREE  
 10 Super Door prizes

Meet your friends at the Post Pessah Fair

Vertical text on the left margin: sion es to isis, alk Aing, ERUSLEM, NCEAT, at Crafts Fair, Mail, Monday, April 12



# Ex-Serb POW finds peace in the Promised Land

## David Mile left a 'crazy country called Yugoslavia,' converted to Judaism and settled in Israel, Judith Sudilovsky writes

ONE of two things can happen to a person when he becomes a prisoner of war: either he breaks or he becomes strong like a tank, according to David Bujich Mile, who as a Serb in Croat territory was arrested in June 1992 while he was making pancakes for his daughter.

Mile says he is the type who became a tank.

He says his spell in prison gave him an intense desire to make a better life for himself and his family after his release. That desire eventually led the Christian-born 43-year-old to make his way to Israel three years ago.

Together with a group of other Serbs, Mile, who had been an officer in the Yugoslav air force, had been charged with "armed rebellion" because of alleged political meetings he participated in. In fact, because his wife was a Croat, he had consciously decided not to take part in the civil war which broke out in Yugoslavia after the 1991 elections.

Mile is one of the lucky ones who spent only a few months in a prisoner of war camp before being released as part of a prisoner exchange. Still, he said, the experience affected him deeply and gave him the will to survive.

Although he was freed from prison, he had to stay in Serb territory and could not return home to his wife and child in Croat-controlled Dubrovnik.

"I was beaten, maybe not so hard, but I was blindfolded and didn't know what to expect. They made primitive jokes about my

wife and threatened to kill her. They ordered us to sing Nazi songs from World War II and it is hard to sing those songs when you know it was those people who killed your grandfather," says Mile. His grandfather, he said, had been killed by pro-Nazi Croats.

After he was released, Mile, who is a trained mechanical engineer, made his way to Israel with only a borrowed suit of clothing and one dollar in his pocket. He has worked two and three jobs at a time since his arrival. Next month he plans to buy his first car and he is saving up to buy an apartment, possibly in Ashkelon.

For most of his life Mile was close to the Jewish community in Dubrovnik and during the war the Jewish community looked after his mother, wife and daughter. Later, through connections, Jewish friends were able to arrange a meeting between him and his wife once he was released. In addition, one of his closest friends and a witness at his wedding was a Jewish woman whom he calls his "second mother."

"I respect her. She said she wanted to help me not be a part of that crazy civil war. She said that in Israel I would have a chance," says Mile, sitting in his neat but spartan room at the immigrant hostel in Kiryat Gat. The late afternoon sun streams in through the solitary window, falling on his CD player sitting on his desk and the framed picture of his nine-year-old daughter Ana Marija. Documents and articles from his past are laid out in neat piles on



Mile: You don't have to forget what you were, but you need to think about how to organize your life for tomorrow. (Brian Hendler)

the bed behind him.

"I thought about what I can do to unite my family, to escape from that crazy situation. I saw children of mixed marriages turn against their fathers and I wanted to organize a life to save my family so that they could be with me," he says.

On January 26, 1993, Mile converted to Judaism. Even when he

had been arrested, he says, his first instinct was to have his wife "call Israel" because of the help he saw the Jewish community had received. Israel, he says, gave him a chance.

When he arrived here he saw hard work as the only way to overcome the demons which followed him from his POW experience. For six months he laid cables for a

cable television company.

"The best therapy is to work hard — 11, 12, 13 hours a day. I was tired as an animal. It was the best thing I could do. I was really good on the asphalt team," he says, laughing. "My hands may be black with dirt but at least they are not dirty with blood."

Later Mile found work at a bakery and at a light-bulb factory in

Beit Shemesh. And now, after three years he has finally found a job as an engineer with Beit Shemesh Motors.

"A lot of immigrants come with their hands stretched out without any power inside themselves, worrying about what they were before. But here nobody is interested in what you were before. You don't have to forget what you

were, but you need to think about how to organize your life for tomorrow."

His family has come to visit him here, but they can't yet come to take care of his mother, who is too sick to make the trip to Israel. Sometimes, he says, he does get lonely, especially when he had no one to celebrate his new job with. But he never has enough time to get really low because of all the hours he works.

Mile said he is aware that some people might accuse him of converting to Judaism just so he could take advantage of the Law of Return, but he doesn't see it that way. (Incidentally there is no other Yugoslav he is aware of, he says, who has similarly converted to Judaism and moved to Israel as he has done.)

He is part of Israel, he says, and is proud of his citizenship and proud of the fact that finally after two years of struggling with Hebrew, he is finally able to communicate fairly well in "our language."

"I am Israeli. I have no other nationality. When people ask me where I am from I say Kiryat Gat. A long time ago I was part of a crazy country called Yugoslavia, but now I am Israeli," he says.

Mile is anything but a shy person and he says he learned Hebrew, after failing miserably in ulpan, on the streets simply by approaching people and telling them he was a new immigrant who wanted to practice his Hebrew.

"Sure there are things I don't like about it here but this country gave me a chance. I am a citizen of this country and I like the people," he says. "I feel good. I have a connection to the Jewish people. There are natural-born Jews who don't want to come to Israel, but I want to be in Israel where I will be a citizen."

## Try to understand that message from your unconscious

DEAR RUTHIE  
RUTHIE BLUM

**D**ear Ruthie, a man I was involved with long ago has begun appearing in my dreams frequently. I am a married woman and have not thought about this man for a decade. The problem is that I feel a desperate need to locate him.

Naturally, I have not discussed this with my husband, as I'm sure he would be hurt. Should I do a little investigating or should I let it go, and hope either to run into this man accidentally or to stop dreaming about him?

**Dreamer in Distress**  
Somewhere in Israel

Dear Distressed Dreamer, Before you decide whether to embark upon a search, you should examine the reason an old flame has been making nocturnal appearances. A recurring dream is a message from your unconscious which is trying to "get through."

Something in your life is triggering similar emotions to those experienced by you in the past, perhaps during the time you were involved with this man. If you can reach a better understanding of what he has come to symbolize, and what in your life is activating the dreams about him, your need to locate the actual person may fade away.

You might consider some kind of therapy to assist you. At least this is something you need not hide from your husband.

Dear Ruthie, I have been living on a kibbutz since my arrival in Israel. Determined to fit in, I threw myself into work and socializing, and learned Hebrew. It's been wonderful, but now I have been invited to become a member of the kibbutz.

Suddenly, I am having difficulty deciding whether this is the life for me, or whether the fact that I viewed this last period as temporary allowed me to become so happily involved. I haven't tried living elsewhere in the country, yet doing so frightens me. The prospect of losing the niche I

have built for myself here is also scary. Can you help?

**Musing about Membership**  
Kibbutz M

Dear Musing, Certain kinds of commitments should be made wholeheartedly. Marriage is one; membership on a kibbutz is another. True, neither marriage nor joining a kibbutz is irreversible. But, as in the case of the former, extricating oneself from the latter is a lot easier said than done. Your fear of leaving a welcoming environment is understandable.

But doubts about your motives for remaining should serve as a warning. If you don't give an alternative lifestyle a chance, you may end up viewing your new-found niche as a cramped corner.

**Dear Ruthie,**  
My 10-year-old wants to begin receiving an allowance. I have been against this as I believe it healthier for families to live in an atmosphere of give and take, rather than one of keeping score and counting pennies. It does no good when I explain this to my son, even when I point out that an allowance means having to decide what items we cease paying for. After all, there is no point in having a budget if it is meaningless.

**In a Cash Quandary**  
Jerusalem

Dear In a Quandary, Your son's desire for an allowance is an expression of his demand for a certain kind of independence. Your fear that this form of parental assistance will alter the give-and-take atmosphere in your family is probably exaggerated. Rather than fighting him on this, why not give him the budget, and let him experience first-hand the true meaning of "counting pennies"? He may soon tire of having to exercise self-denial, in any case.

Letters should be addressed to: 'Dear Ruthie,' POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem. For E-mail, editors@jpost.co.il. (Ruthie regrets not being able to guarantee the publication of every letter, but will answer every letter received.)

## Singing Euro-MP combines politics and performances

THE first question people ask when they see Greek singer Nana Mouskouri in her other role as a member of the European Parliament is why she wears sunglasses instead of her famous black-rimmed spectacles.

The answer contains a clue to the lifestyle of a woman who has two full-time jobs, sings fluently in six languages, and owns 100 pairs of glasses.

"I try to wear the dark glasses in the morning because it's too early for me," she explains. If mornings are difficult, it's because late nights are part of a schedule which can include a day of meetings at the parliament in Brussels and end with a frantic rush to another country or city to get to the concert hall on time.

"We are doing Germany at the moment," she says, wearing a brown pin-striped suit and red glasses. Mouskouri says she chooses which glasses to wear according to the time of the day.

"Sometimes the red glasses give you a cheerful face you might not have," she says. "I use the other ones as well sometimes. It's all a question of timing."

Later in the day, she travels by car to a town across the border in Germany to sing. By the time she appears on stage she will be wearing a long dress and her trademark black-rimmed glasses.

The next morning she is back in Brussels, cheerful and wearing sunglasses, at a conference about



Now that Greek singer Nana Mouskouri's children have grown up, she's found something new to devote her time to — the European Parliament.

responsibilities. Mouskouri's election as a deputy for Greece's conservative New Democracy Party was one of the biggest surprises of the last European Parliament elections in June 1994.

Mouskouri, 61, admits her double life is difficult, but says she could not continue being a member of the European Parliament if it stopped her from singing.

"I wouldn't leave my other occupation for anything," she says. "I think it's very difficult because it takes time. I have to plan my life very well so that I am able to work here and meet all my

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At the parliament, she is seen more as a cultural ambassador than a politician, fighting to promote minority languages and examining what the developing information society will mean for entertainers' copyrights.

Mouskouri was disappointed when Britain vetoed a \$44 million program last June to help publishers translate books written in minority languages.

"I was really sorry that they did not believe it was worth it because I think it's not a very expensive program ... I think it's a big world. Languages are important," she says.

She hopes the inter-governmental conference on the European Union's future, which was launched by EU leaders in the Italian city of Turin last week, will help by allowing decisions on cultural issues to be decided by majority rather than unanimity.

"Unanimity, I think it's very important when the problems are more dangerous, but I may say in this case — culture — there's no danger."

Mouskouri lives in Geneva with her musical director Andre Chapelle and has two children by an earlier marriage. Her recording activities are based in Paris. (Reuters)

Jerusalem Municipality  
Department of Tourism

Ministry of Tourism  
Jerusalem & Dead Sea Region

**FREE PASSOVER WALKING TOURS**

You are cordially invited to participate in free walking tours in the Old City during the Passover holiday, April 5-10, 1996

The walking tours will start from the courtyard of the Citadel (Jaffa Gate) at 9 a.m.

The three-hour tour, in English or Hebrew, includes: The Jewish Quarter, the Cardo, the Nea and more.

Details at the Municipal Tourist Information Offices:  
17 Jaffa St., Tel. 02-258844  
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will take place during Pessah, on the fourth day of Hol Hamoed, Monday, April 8, 1996, at the Western Wall

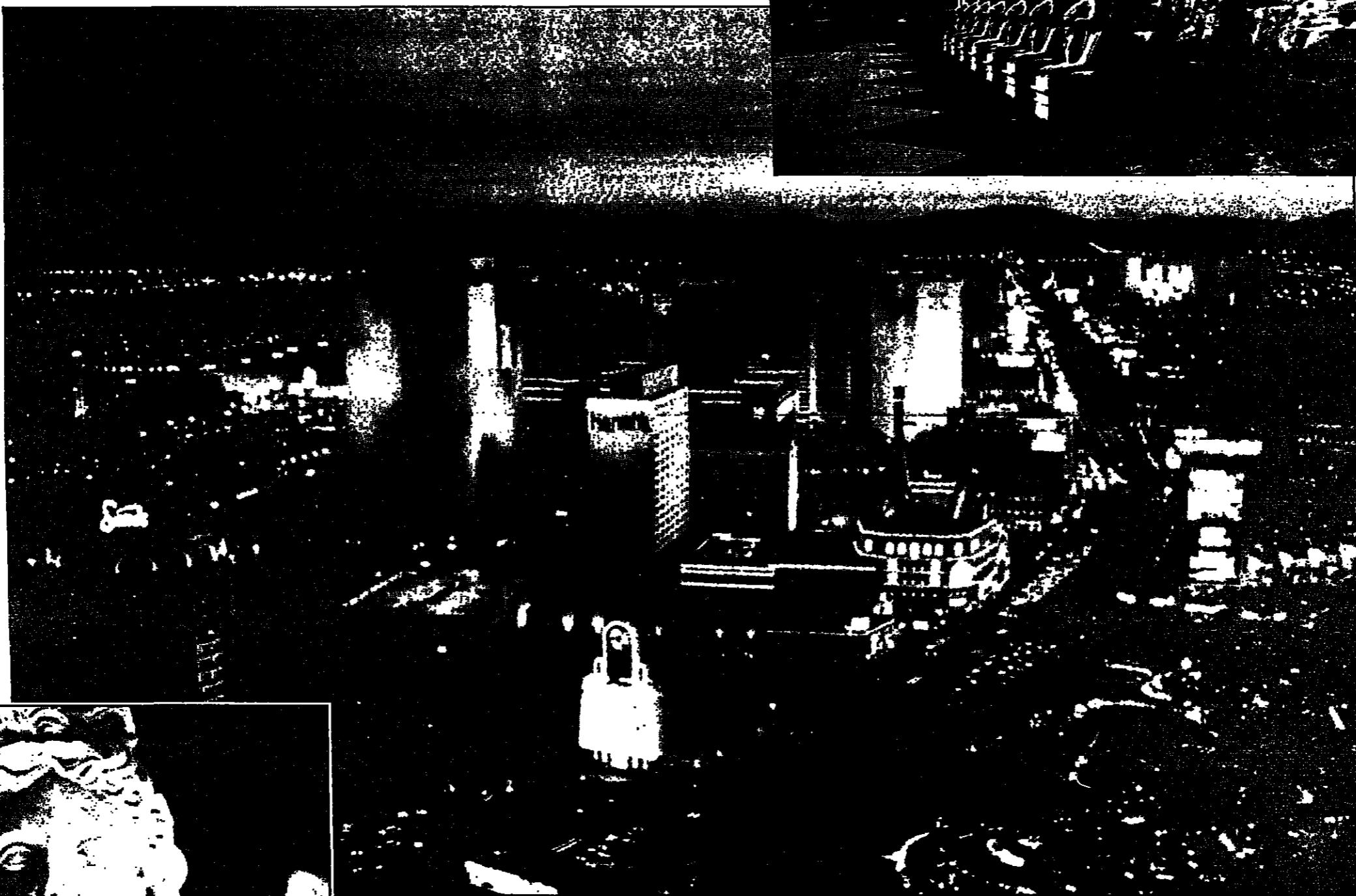
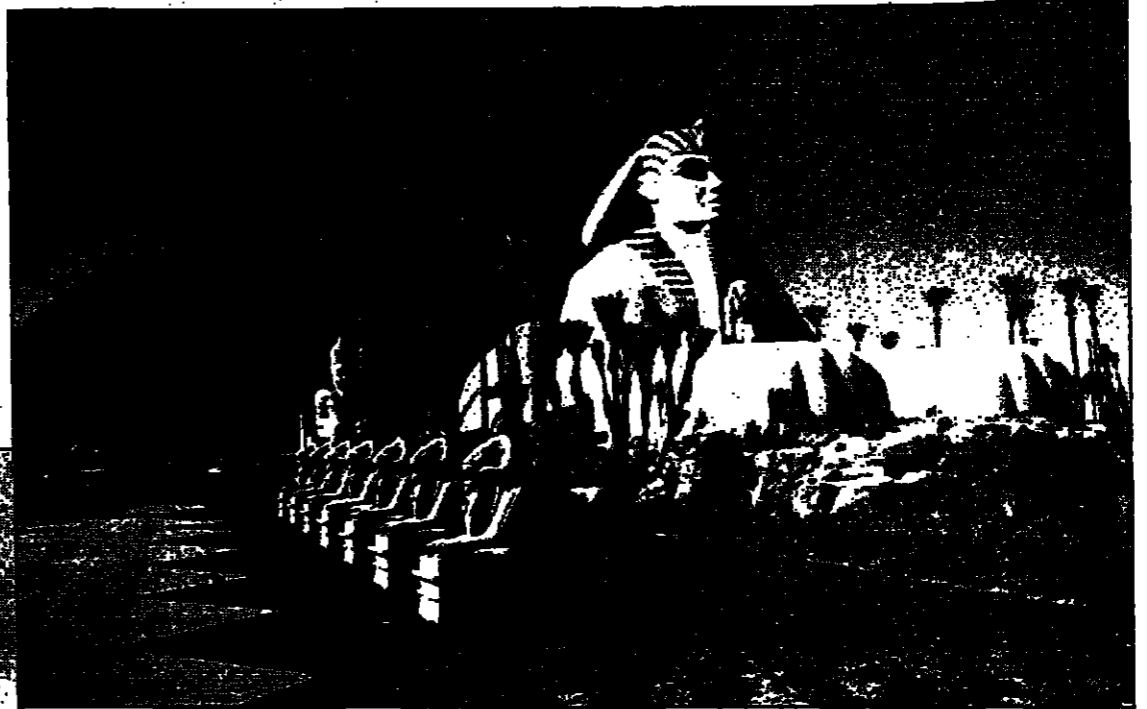
• Shahrut - 8:45 a.m. • Birkat Kohanim of Shahrut - 9:30 a.m. • Mussaf - 10:15 a.m. • Birkat Kohanim of Mussaf - 10:30 a.m.

This notice is dedicated to the memory of Reb Asher, son of Reb Ya'acov Herzog ז"ל, who died on 29 Sivan 5749





## SEE LAS VEGAS



In Las Vegas you take a world tour just by walking the strip. The Luxor (top photo) evokes feelings of ancient Egypt and Caesar's Palace (left photo) is decked out in a classical Roman theme.

## AND SEE THE WORLD

By John Grochowski

Chicago Sun-Times

From the great pyramid of Luxor at the south end of the Las Vegas Strip, Las Vegas, Nevada, it's an easy walk to New York, New York. Just north is Monte Carlo, then it's off to the Mediterranean village of Bellagio.

Near center Strip, just east of Bally's on Flamingo Road, Paris is rising. For those willing to venture off the Strip, there's Rio and Texas, and ground has been broken for Orleans, with its French Quarter theme.

And where better to view it all than the Stratosphere—that is, the Stratosphere Tower at the north end of the Strip on the former site of Vegas World.

It's the gambler's version of a world tour, with new construction everywhere as Vegas continues to reinvent itself from the mobsters. This is a change from the publicly-traded multinational corporations who ran the show and casino names acknowledged their place in the desert—Dunes, Sands, Sahara, Desert Inn.

The transformation of Las Vegas into the world's largest theme park continues unabated—and this is a gambler's theme park, a wagering center that draws bettors from around the globe despite the recent proliferation of gambling.

As William Eadington, director of the University of Nevada at Reno's gaming institute, "Las Vegas is gambling's Disney World. Everyplace else is the Six Flags."

There are more hotel rooms here than anywhere else in the world, and not even a slight dip from last year's record 95.2 percent occupancy rate on the Strip can stop the boom.

Everywhere you look, it seems there's either something new or something under construction.

### SOUTH STRIP

Just a few years ago, the Tropicana was virtually alone, half a mile north of the Hacienda, half a mile south of the Aladdin, and it was another half a mile from the Aladdin to the real action—Flamingo Road and center Strip, Bally's, Caesars Palace and more.

That all started the change in 1990 with the opening of Excalibur, and now Tropicana Avenue and the Strip is one of the hottest areas in Las Vegas—the

New Four Corners, with the Trop, Excalibur and MGM Grand filling three of the corners. Just south of Excalibur is Luxor, filling in most of the space headed down toward the Hacienda.

By late 1996, the fourth corner will be occupied by New York, New York. A 150-foot Statue of Liberty is planned, along with a 48-story Empire State Building. A preview center is open on the future site of Miss Liberty to show visitors just what's coming. There will be a 1,000-seat Radio City Music Hall, a main entrance through the Brooklyn Bridge and Gotham-themed casino areas.

**This is a gambler's theme park, a wagering center that draws bettors from around the globe despite the recent proliferation of gambling.**

Just north is the old Dunes property. The golf course has been closed, and the property is to hold two casino/hotels, now under construction. A partnership with Circus Circus Enterprises is expected to give Mirage Resorts an entry into the mid-level market.

Originally named Victoria, the project now is reported to have transformed into Monte Carlo.

The larger share of the property will be taken up by Bellagio, a Mirage megaresort patterned on a resort village in Northern Italy.

Even the venerable old Tropicana, a fixture since 1956, is getting in on the construction act. Two 1,000-room towers are to be added to the existing resort. The Winners coffee shop and Rhapsody upscale restaurant have been closed, with a Mexican restaurant called Papagayo's opening on the former coffee shop site and a new coffee shop on the Rhapsody site.

### CENTER STRIP

Getting from the New Four Corners to center Strip is one of the easiest trips in Las Vegas. A monorail takes customers between the MGM Grand and Bally's. Bally's is very conscious of getting the customer to the door, a concern engendered by the limits on walk-in

trade placed by its very slightly off-Strip location on Flamingo Road. That 100-yard walk from the Strip to Bally's Flamingo Road entrance proved daunting to potential customers during Vegas' 100-plus-degree summer days. Bally's solved that problem last year

with the opening of a huge people mover that carries customers from the Strip to the casino.

Now Bally's is taking its chances even further off the Strip with Paris, with a possible 1997 opening at Flamingo and Koval Road. Early plans included a 50-story Eiffel Tower, an Arc de Triomphe, Champs-Elysees, River Seine and a winery, though recent reports say the package may be slightly scaled back.

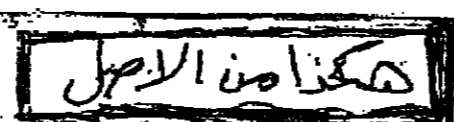
Much of the center Strip building boom seems to have abated, with the Mirage and its volcano and Treasure Island with its pirate battle having opened in recent years. But there is expansion in the works at Harrah's, with a 694-room hotel tower and 22,000 square feet of added casino space.

### NORTH STRIP

Stratosphere Tower rises above the Las Vegas skyline, due to open late this year. A pod at the 900-foot level should offer a spectacular view of the Strip. The project, begun by former Vegas World owner Bob Stupak but now owned by Grand Casinos of Minnesota, will have roller coasters, restaurants, wedding chapels, meeting rooms—all high in the sky.

Refurbishing and expansion are expected at the

Continued on page 2





## TIPS FOR TAKING IN WINNINGS

**L**AS VEGAS—in a casino world where everyone offers much the same gaming options, developing customer loyalty is a tricky business.

A slot player might stick with a casino where he feels lucky, and a blackjack player might choose to play where the rules are most favorable, but by and large, it's little customer service touches that make the difference. If the customer feels comfortable, he'll be back.

With that in mind, here are a few touches seen recently that made a difference, for better or worse:

### Token Exchange, Harrah's

A couple four-of-a-kind hits on a Bonus Poker video poker machine left a man with several hundred \$1 tokens in his tray. A Harrah's employee wheeling a change cart saw what was happening and handed him several plastic racks, designed to hold 100 tokens in each. "Why don't you rack them up and I'll buy those back from you?" she said. She saved the customer from having to lug three or four heavy, awkward plastic coin cups full of \$1 tokens to the cashier's cage.

### Token Exchange, Stardust

In a similar situation, a woman hit four 3s on a

\$1 Double Bonus Poker machine, paying \$400 in \$1 tokens. Here there was no offer, but she couldn't carry her racks of tokens so she asked a casino employee if she could put her winnings atop the change cart to be wheeled to the cage. "How many can you carry?" the change woman asked. When the customer said two, she then said, "Take those to the booth over there, and I'll watch the others till you get back." The customer wound up carrying the coins.

### People Mover, Bally's

Set a half-block off the Strip on Flamingo Road, Bally's has bid for more walkup trade by installing a people mover that extends all the way from the Strip to the casino. And, wonder of wonders, it not only carries customers into the casino, it also moves them back out to the Strip.

### People Movers, Caesars Palace and Excalibur

In both cases, it's a fair distance from the front of the property at the Strip to the door leading into the casino. In both cases, people movers were installed. And in both cases, they only go one way.

They'll move you into the casino, but if you want to leave, you have to hoof it.

### Slot Club, Tropicana

The benefits aren't the best in Las Vegas, but table game players in the Island Winners Club have the same cards they use on the slots swiped through a magnetic reader at the tables. When they leave the table, the card is swiped through again, an average bet is keyed in, and complimentary points are awarded. The player can immediately go to readers throughout the casino and learn how many complimentary dollars he's earned. Few casinos offer such an easy table rating system.

### Cashier's Cage, Treasure Island

For such a nice casino, there's a real bottleneck at the cage. Customers redeeming chips for cash find themselves stuck in line behind others making more time-consuming paper transactions, such as cashing checks or redeeming markers. Lines aren't marked, so one chip-toting customer found himself in a paper-only queue and had to move when a cashier told him there was no money in that line. Many other casinos have clearly marked "chip and token redemption only" lines.

## See Las Vegas From page 1

Sahara, though nothing is yet under way. The Sahara, a 22-acre parking lot and a 26-acre property now leased by a water park recently were acquired by William Bennett, former CEO of Circus Circus Enterprises.

## OFF STRIP

One of the biggest success stories of the '90s has been the Rio, west of the Strip on Flamingo Road. All the rooms are suites, and local polls have rated the Brazilian-themed resort the best of practically everything, from casino to restaurants to cocktail waitresses. The monthly Las Vegas Advisor newsletter consistently rates Rio's buffet as the best in Las Vegas—try the Mongolian grill, where you fill a bowl with veggies and spices, then give it to a chef who grills it with a meat of your choice.

A new tower will give Rio 1,000 additional rooms by spring of 1997. Plans include a sky parade that will float through the casino, Texas, owned by Station Casinos, which also operates local favorites Palace Station and Boulder Station, opened in July in North Las Vegas. Along with its Lone Star theme and decor, it houses a 12-screen movie theater.

Ground has been broken on West Tropicana for Orleans, which will have 810 rooms, a 100,000-square-foot casino and 70 bowling lanes.

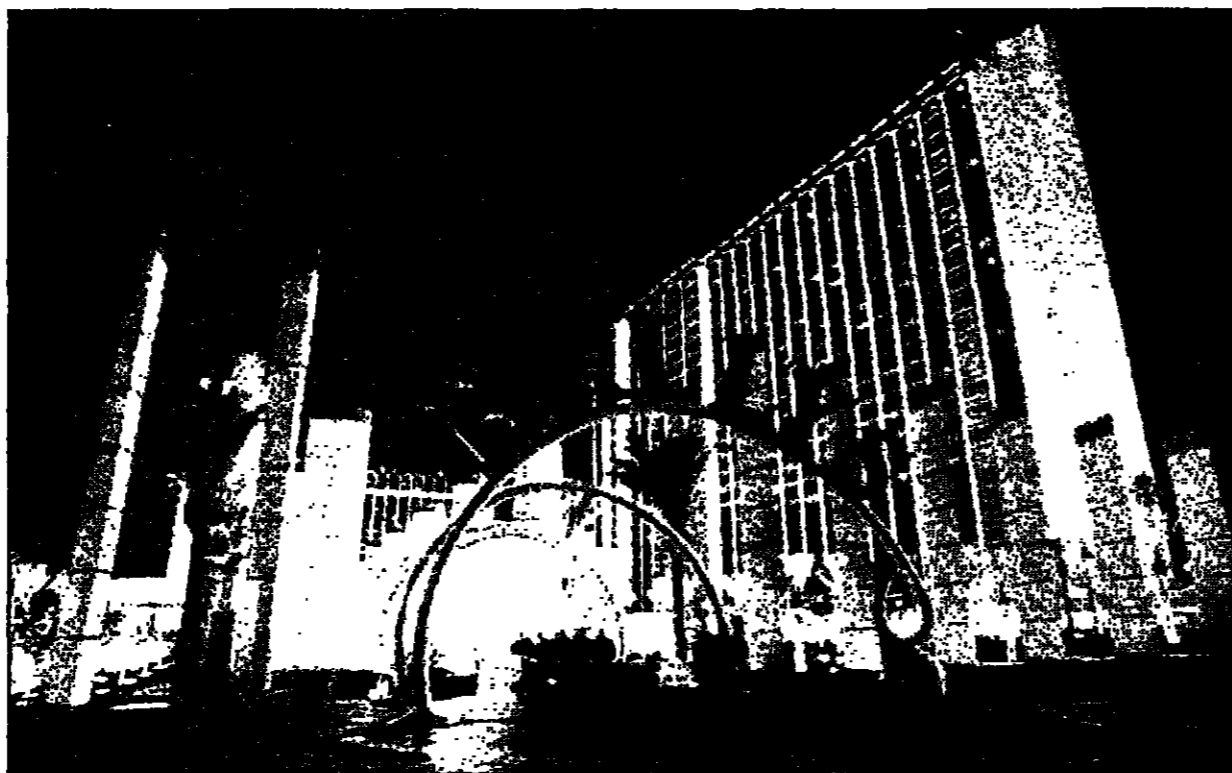
## DOWNTOWN

The Fremont Street Experience, downtown's answer to the Strip's glitz, opened last December. The huge mesh awning stretched across Fremont Street, equipped with 1.6 million lights, will be used for the nightly Sky Parade and Light Show, with computer-generated images and symphonic sound.

Will that be enough for downtown to lure customers

back from the Strip? That's unclear, but there may be something else in the works. The Pioneer Club has closed, and Steve Wynn, the Mirage Resorts honcho, has an option to buy the property. Given Wynn's track record, you probably can count on another stop being added to the Vegas World Tour.

John Grochowski is a syndicated writer of the Chicago Sun-Times Features Syndicate.



Tourists walking the strip can beat the summer heat by using Bally's Hotel and Casino's indoor air conditioned people mover.

# Beyond the Slot Machines

By John Grochowski

**B**ehind all the bright lights and glitz, beyond the baccarat pits filled with high rollers and the clanking of coins pouring into slot machine trays, there is a city here.

The fastest growing city in the United States for the last five, Las Vegas has 854,300 residents, and is expected to top one million by the end of the century. It's growing so fast that the telephone directories, both white pages and yellow, are updated every six months instead of once a year. The people who live, work and go to school here have their own museums and concerts, tours and attractions.

It's a world that few of the area's 29 million visitors a year see. For most, the Las Vegas they see away from gambling itself consists of casino showrooms (Elvis sold out a record 837 consecutive shows at the Las Vegas Hilton in the '70s), cheap buffets (the Circus Circus buffet, with as many as 13,000 meals served a day, is the world's busiest restaurant), and bright lights (more than 2 million light bulbs illuminate computer-generated images in the Fremont Street Experience).

That's not likely to change any time soon. For all of Las Vegas' recent push to attract the family trade with pirate battles, game arcades and amusement parks at the lavish casino resort hotels, it's the gambling that brings visitors to town.

**Behind all the bright lights and glitz, beyond the baccarat pits filled with high rollers and the clanking of coins pouring into slot machine trays, there is a city here.**

But for those adventurous enough to leave the Strip or Glitter Gulch, and for families, there are city attractions beyond the Liberace Museum or the Imperial Palace car collection. Many of the attractions are on Las Vegas Boulevard North—Las Vegas Boulevard South is the Strip; as the addresses turn to North, you're closer to the downtown Fremont Street casino area. Here are a few highlights:

## MUSEUMS AND ZOOS

Las Vegas Museum of Natural History, 900 Las Vegas Boulevard North, (001) 702/384-3466: This is dinosaurland, with a nice fossil collection as well as a fun display of the animatronic beasts. The resident fossilized sauropod—the family of huge plant-eaters most familiar to museum-goers as Apatosaurus (formerly Brontosaurus)—is a Camarasaurus. There are non-dinosaur fossils, too—the early crocodile relative Phobosuchus and, moving ahead to the Age of Mammals, Smilodon, the saber-toothed cat.

An 11-foot-tall, 35-foot-long roaring Tyrannosaurus Rex high-lights the animatronic display, which also includes the smallish (up to about 150 pounds) raptor Deinonychus, Triceratops and an Ankylosaurus with three hatchlings.

There's a kids' room with hands-on displays, an exhibit of Nevada wildlife and a marine room with live sharks in a 3,000-gallon tank.

Old Las Vegas Fort, 908 Las Vegas Boulevard North, (001) 702/486-3511: Right next door to the natural history museum is this relic from Nevada's pioneer past. It was built by Mormons in 1855 as a refuge for travelers, and served as a stopping point for fortune seekers on their way to California in the late stages of the Gold Rush. By the turn of the century it had become a railroad junction post. The restored fort contains more than half of its original bricks and houses antiques and relics of the era.

Lied Children's Discovery Museum, 833 Las Vegas Boulevard North, (001) 702/382-2445: Opened in 1990, this is the fourth largest children's museum in the world, with 24,000 square feet of display space housing more than 100 hands-on exhibits. Kids can bend sound waves in the echo tubes or pilot the space shuttle. Through April 28, a special exhibit teaches children ages 10 through 17 and their parents about AIDS.

Las Vegas Art Museum, 6130 West Charleston, (001) 702/249-4458: The museum hopes to win permission to take over 30,000 square feet of space at the public library near the Lied Children's Discovery Museum. Rotating monthly exhibits focus on artists of the West, mostly from California and Nevada.

Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, 700 Twin Lakes Drive, (001) 702/486-5205: Pick an era of Nevada history, and you'll find it here. There's a haunting exhibit on the days of atomic testing in the desert. Naturally, the history of gambling is traced. And how about a display on the use of neon lighting in Las Vegas?

Southern Nevada Zoological Park, 1775 North Rancho Drive, (001) 702/648-5955: This is the only zoo in Nevada, and there's a special emphasis on native wildlife. The more than 150 species in the collection include more than 50 species of desert wildlife, with loads of reptiles including the threatened desert tortoise. There are monkeys, tigers and llamas here, too, and a petting zoo for the kids.

## MUSIC AND THEATER

Charles VanDyke Master Series at the University of Nevada at Las Vegas, 4505 North Maryland Parkway, (001) 702/895-3801: This series, which runs from September through May, brings sponsored classical performers to the desert. In its 18-year run, the series has played host to Eugene Conamy, Isaac Stern, the Moscow Symphony, New York Philharmonic, Israel Ballet and more.

Chamber Music Southwest, at UNLV, (001) 702/895-3535: Organized in 1987, Chamber Music Southwest both brings acclaimed artists from all over the world to Las Vegas and presents concerts by local musicians.

Actors Repertory Theatre, 1824 Palo Alto Circle, (001) 702/677-7469: The only Actors Equity theater in Las Vegas presents about a dozen plays per season and conducts an annual tour through rural Nevada.

Allied Arts Council, 3135 Industrial Road, (001) 702/731-5419: There are many other small music, theatre and dance ensembles in Las Vegas that use the council as a scheduling clearinghouse. For information on what's going on in the arts, the council publishes a monthly magazine called Arts Alive.

## TOURS

Ethel M Chocolate Factory, Sunset Road and Mountain Vista Street, (001) 702/458-8864: The M in Ethel M stands for Mars, and this branch of the Mars family business makes not Snickers or Milky Way, but fine chocolates. This is one of the few places in the United States that includes liquor-filled chocolates in its selection—rum, bourbon, Irish cream, orange liqueur, cherry cordials. Free self-guided tours and free samples are offered daily. On the grounds is a 2-acre cactus garden, worth the trip by itself for cactus fanciers. And, of course, there's a chocolate shop along with a gift shop.

Holy Cow! Brewery, 2623 Las Vegas Boulevard South, (001) 702/732-2697: After all that non-casino entertainment, this will get you back into the swing. This is on the Strip and has a slot machine/video poker arcade on premises. You can tour the brewery daily and watch them make their specialty beers. The Amber Gambler brew won the gold medal at the 1993 Great American Beer Festival. A gift shop focuses on dozens of cow-oriented items.

John Grochowski is a syndicated writer of the Chicago Sun-Times Features Syndicate.

## Casino in the Clouds

Plenty of airlines have been touting on-board gaming, but British Airways will roll the dice. As part of its new in-seat entertainment system, which will allow travelers to video shop at Harrods and other tony stores, BA will allow wagering up to \$200 per flight starting this fall.

A spokesperson says a limit is important: "We don't want someone getting off a plane who's lost his shirt." (Or who broke the bank). Meantime, BA is serving toast and cappuccino.

## Butlers are Back

Hotels wooing business travelers are adding butlers, a nicety found in pricey European and

## Manhattan hotels.

The Stouffer Renaissance Dallas Hotel has 24-hour private butler service on its two Club Floors (rate: \$174), where butlers will unpack, press and dry clean clothes, make travel arrangements, dining and theater reservations, and provide secretarial and fax services. Butlers will also serve Continental breakfast, afternoon pastries and evening cordials and trifles in your room rather than a just laying them out in a guest lounge.

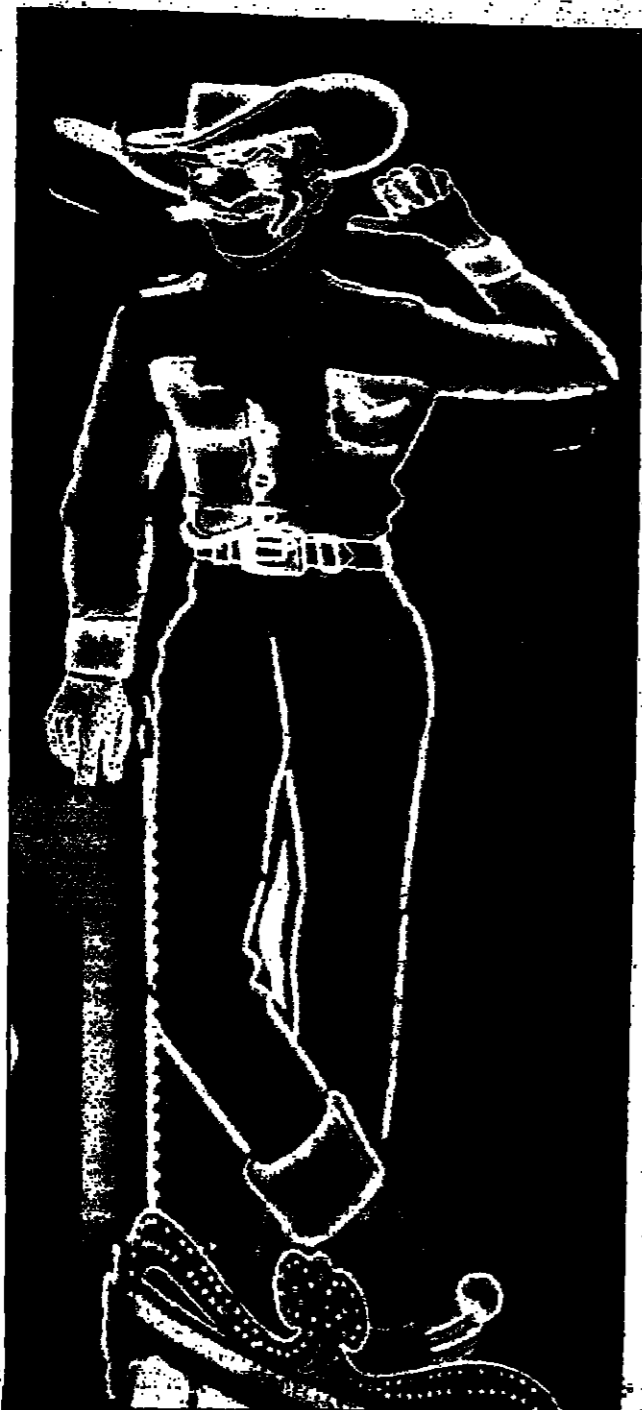
The Stouffer Madison in Seattle, with rates beginning at \$160, offers guests gratis limo drop off and pickup service downtown, a convenience more hotels will offer in '96.

## Filling up the Fringe

There are still a few in the Fremont Street Experience area that offer an alternative to the slot machines and the neon. The Fremont Street Experience is a great place to see the city from a different perspective. The Fremont Street Experience is a great place to see the city from a different perspective. The Fremont Street Experience is a great place to see the city from a different perspective.

John Grochowski

Right: Fremont Street features 2.1 million computer controlled lights creating moving full-color pictures on an artificial sky four blocks long. Below: Vegas Vic has been a familiar face on Fremont Street for decades.



Photocourtesy of the Las Vegas News Bureau

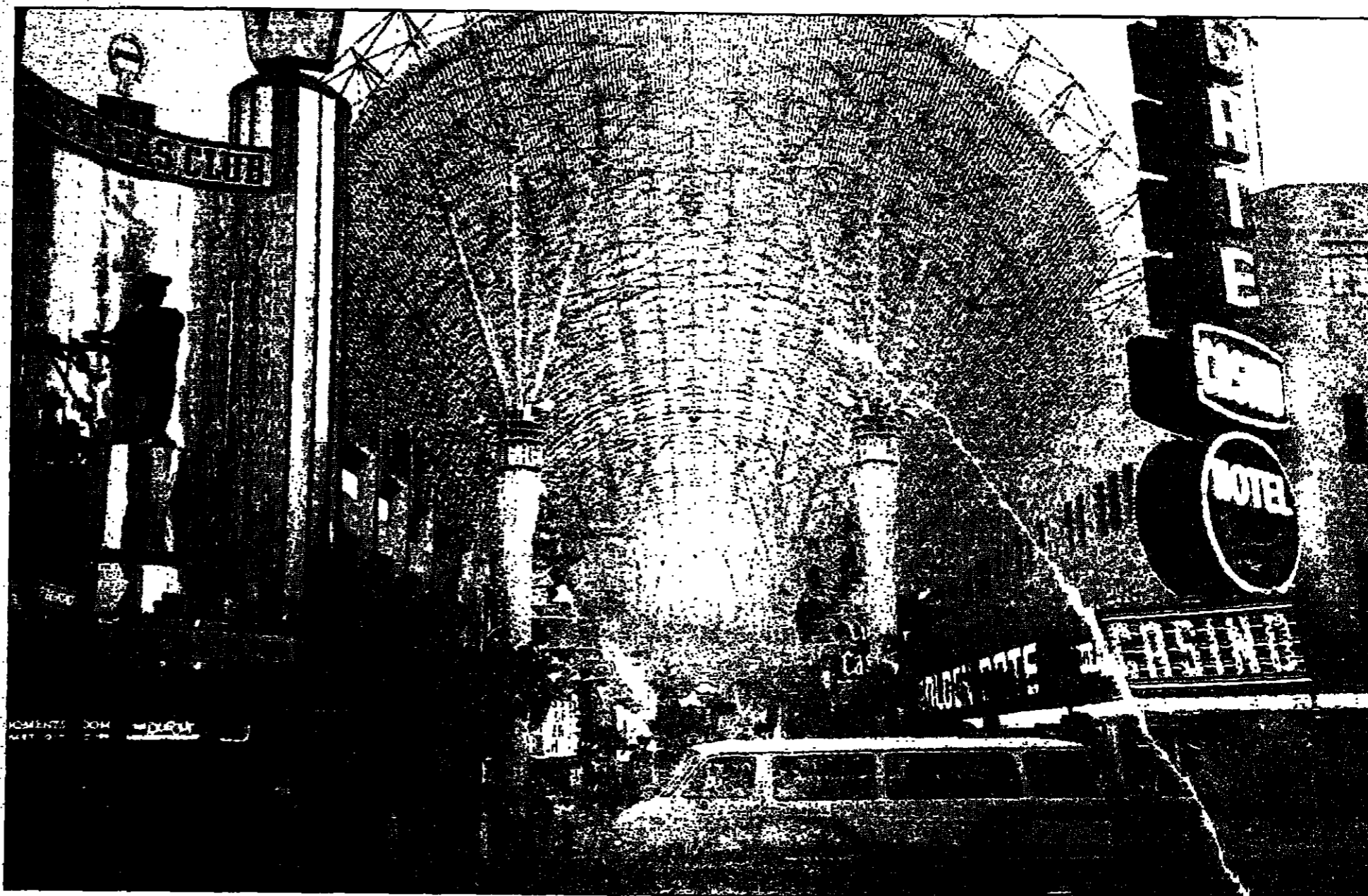


Photo by Brenda Warner Rotzoll

# No Escaping the Lights of Fremont Street

By Brenda Warner Rotzoll

Chicago Sun-Times

**L**AS VEGAS—It's here! It's here! It's here! It's the Fremont Street Experience, a sound and light extravaganza of 2.1 million computer controlled lights creating moving full-color pictures on an artificial sky four blocks long, 90 feet above the street. Moving pictures? What a wimpy description. These images gallop, stampee, explode, roar past at the speed of sound, accompanied by the thunder of 540,000 watts of audio power diffused through 160 speakers hung from 16 giant pillars, each pillar more than a yard in diameter.

There's nothing like it in this world, although the technology employed has become commonplace. It's just that every other use of the pictures-from-fixed-lights technology (caller reader boards) has been no bigger than billboard size, while this is 1,400 feet long and spans the street from building facade to building facade.

Another difference is that most reader boards have exposed lights. The tiny lights of the Fremont Street Experience are capped with white plastic domes about 2-1/2 inches across. Behind each dome is a cluster of four lights, one each in red, green, blue and white. The plastic domes help the lights diffuse and mix. Computer controls determine not only which colored lights are on at a given instant, but also their intensity.

The combination of mixing light and controlling how much light comes from any one colored bulb means up to 65,000 shades of color can be obtained, said Bob Cloud, an architect with the designers, Jerde Partnership.

Light is natural for a Las Vegas attraction. Light—along with slot machines and gaming tables—is the image most people have of the gambling capital. Thousands upon thousands of lights in casino signs along Fremont Street gave it the nickname Glitter Gulch. Hotel-casinos and their signs are spread farther apart on Las Vegas Boulevard, the famous Strip, but present an equally gaudy appearance.

About four years ago architect Jon Jerde was called in to create a super attraction to help Fremont Street get back in business that increasingly was skipping downtown in favor of the Strip. Jerde was chosen for his expertise in creating spaces where people gather, such as Horton Plaza in San Diego, City Walk in Universal

**Thousands upon thousands of lights in casino signs along Fremont Street gave it the nickname Glitter Gulch.**

City, California, and Treasure Island in Las Vegas. "He was walking down Fremont Street and saw the two walls of light, and a dark floor and ceiling," said Kathlynn Carpenter, vice president of marketing for the Fremont Street Experience. "He said, 'It's the lights.'"

Jerde wanted to create an urban place that would be an attraction in itself, and to do it in a way that would be immediately identifiable with Fremont Street, Cloud said.

He said the image people around the world have of Fremont Street is a picture framed on two sides with

light from the casino signs. "The idea was to complete the frame of that picture, to carry out the essence of Fremont Street as being historically this street of light."

Jerde designed a metal space frame 1,400 feet long, supported on pillars and extending from building wall to cover the street below. It fills in the top of the picture with a new wave of light. The bottom of the picture is the street itself, converted to a pedestrian mall, its flat surface polished to reflect light if it draws the light-absorbing crowds its backers hope for.

"The idea was to create this great urban room which would be the anteroom to all of the casinos which define its edges," Cloud said.

Street level is starting out with little but palm trees to adorn it. Next up, Carpenter said, will be "a retail presence with carts and kiosks," and sidewalk cafes outside the hotels.

Outside. That's a concept casino owners had to wrestle with.

"The Las Vegas mentality is 'How can we get [people] in here and how can we keep them,'" Carpenter said. "For us to build something in front of the property, that will draw people outside, is quite a step."

Time will tell whether this \$70 million gamble works. During installation and testing of the light show last month only a few hundred people were outside on Fremont Street, wandering about, while thousands more were inside the casinos.

When word of the tests filtered inside, some people did leave the slot machines to watch the new spectacle. The hope is that thousands will quit wandering the Strip and come wander here to see the show, then go inside to gamble.

Not surprisingly, the man who first moved entertainment outside on the Strip was heavily involved in creating an outdoor attraction for Fremont Street. Wynn started the outdoor trend when he built an

erupting volcano outside the Mirage, then created the pirate show in front of Treasure Island. His company also owns the Golden Nugget, at 2,000 rooms by far the largest of the Fremont Street hotel-casinos.

The coming of the megaresorts on the Strip, with anywhere from 1,500 to 5,000 rooms, and the entertainment they provided, drew millions of dollars of gaming revenues away from Fremont Street starting in the late 1980s, Carpenter said. "We just had little casinos down here. It also was hard for us to compete with those huge numbers of rooms."

Downtown business owners realized they all had to get together to have an impact and have the kind of money they needed. Ten hotel-casinos put up \$70 million. A lot of people say that isn't much money. But we already have a \$1.5 billion project with the hotels. We only had to build the attraction," she said.

What an attraction it is. The peak of the space frame vaults higher than the early medieval cathedrals of Europe—they only run about 75 feet high, Cloud said, while later cathedral vaults rose to 90 and then more than 100 feet. The immense pillars and the support beams arching out from them to anchor the 3,200 tons of steel in the space frame bear an uncanny resemblance to the stone vaulting in gothic cathedrals.

"We have THE most sophisticated sound system in the world," Carpenter said. It is powerful enough to fill four city blocks with sound, yet well controlled and not deafening. It can be timed to coordinate perfectly with the visual images flashing across the light screen above.

A show with a Western theme was being tested when I was in Las Vegas last month. Male and female figures in silhouette did a square dance, cowboys trotted by on horseback, buffalo stampeeded. Psychedelic light explosions (imagine the ones in a comic strip, set in motion) flashed across the screen, and playing

cards appeared. They slip-slapped down the block and suddenly aligned five across in royal flush—a sight to inspire any gambler.

Even with no sound it was impressive. But people stood riveted when the casino signs went out, the light show came on and the sound poured in. That's what will happen every night from now on, with a seven-minute show scheduled every hour on the hour, starting an hour after dark.

One show already on the computer features F-14 jet planes streaking across the artificial sky, following an eagle that flaps by carrying in its beak a sign saying "Fremont Street Experience."

Other outdoor entertainment structures can be changed, over time, with great effort, Cloud said. The Fremont Street Experience shows can be changed in a few hours, the time it takes to download a new show from compact disks to the 31 PCs and 90 custom computer controllers that run the show.

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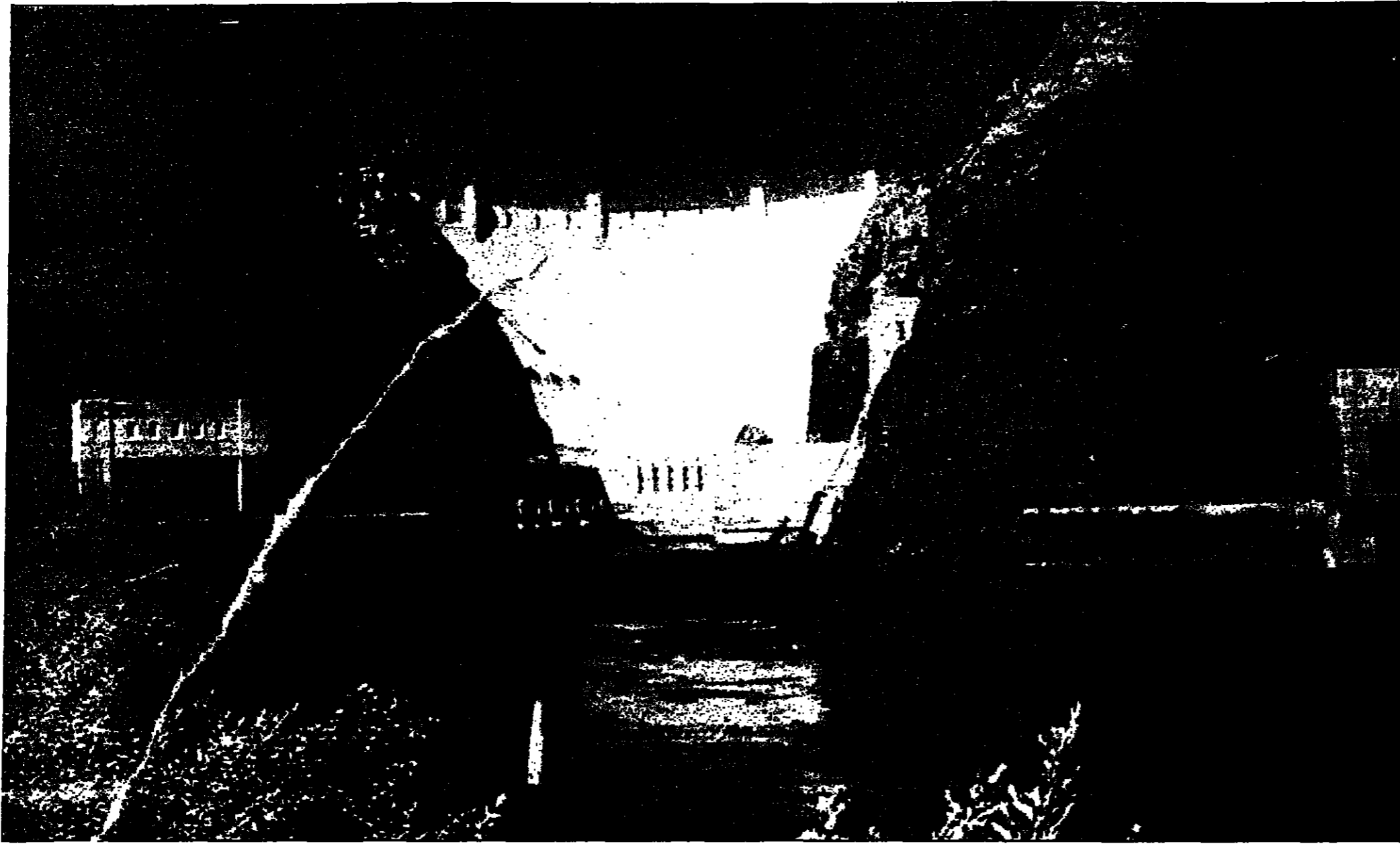
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Hoover Dam, built in Black Canyon, is an hour car trip from Las Vegas.

Photo courtesy of the Las Vegas News Bureau

# Hoover Dam

## The 20th Century Engineering Marvel

By Brenda Warner Rotzoll

Chicago Sun-Times

**B**OULDER CITY, Nevada—Call it Boulder Dam, call it Hoover Dam, call it awesome, romantic, the engineering marvel of the 20th century, the key that unlocked the riches of the desert Southwest, the power that fueled West Coast defense factories during World War II. Call it any of those things and you'll call it right. Engineers originally expected to build the 726-

foot-high dam in Boulder Canyon. The name Boulder stuck when it was built instead in nearby Black Canyon, where the underlying rock was stronger. In 1930, Interior Secretary Ray Lyman Wilbur declared it would be called Hoover Dam, a name that was changed as soon as Democrats came to power in 1933. The partisan battle over the dam's name raged until 1947, when Hoover became the official name.

The most famous dam in the world was built to control floods on the lower reaches of the Colorado River and provide a reliable source of water to irrigate the otherwise barren Imperial Valley of southern California, now one of the nation's major sources of fruits and vegetables.

At the time it was the world's largest dam, the first of a new breed of superdams. Nothing like it existed. Engineers had to build rail lines and overhead cableways to deliver construction material to the site, built a huge concrete-making plant, devise new work methods to drill enormous tunnels through rock walls, set up a steel fabrication plant on site to build the huge pipes that would run through those tunnels.

The dam was equipped with a hydroelectric station so that it could sell power to help pay for its construction. The water and the power it provided turned a dusty desert town of 5,000 people into the light-the-skies gambling mecca of Las Vegas that now is home to just over one million people.

Much of its power is used to pump water to farms, and across the mountains to the city of Los Angeles, whose residents would be much thirstier were it not for Hoover Dam. At daily times of peak electricity demand—when people are getting up and coming home—it's a peaking station, pouring power into the grids of commercial electric utilities.

At all times, it is one of the major tourist attractions of the Southwest. Each year as many as 770,000 people drive to the middle of nowhere to tour the towering dam and gaze at the canyon it spans. Uncounted millions more drive across the state highway on the rim of the dam, look about them and drive on. In summer, traffic can be so heavy it takes 30 minutes to

drive the 1,224 feet across the dam from the Arizona to the Nevada side.

The number of people taking tours will be higher from now on, thanks to a new visitor center which opened June 21, 1995. It has elevators which can handle 40 visitors at a time, moving tour groups in and out of the dam in 75 seconds instead of the previous time of 12 minutes. The 1995 visitor total was 862,330 and more than 1 million are expected in 1996. Bureau of Reclamation spokesman Bob Walsh said, "As many as 1.5 million can be accommodated."

What they see is an engineering marvel astonishing for its size, its beauty and its very existence in a hostile climate of desert and canyon where the temperature can rise to 125 degrees on a summer day.

"It's still pretty hard to believe that they built it at the time and place that they did," said Walsh, whose job takes him through the dam an average of once a week. He said he never tires of the sight, and finds something new every trip.

"I still wonder how we did it, and I know how we did it," said Boulder City resident Red Watson, one of the 5,000 workers who helped build the dam. He is one of several whose comments are displayed, along with artifacts and photographs, in the Boulder City-Hoover Dam Museum in Boulder City, seven miles from the dam.

They did it despite raging river, falling rock, heat exhaustion, and carbon monoxide poisoning in the tunnels drilled to carry water through the canyon walls—the dam was designed for water to flow around it, not over it. They did it seven days a week for \$4 a day if they were mucking out silt and debris, \$5.60 a day if they had the most glamorous and most dangerous job of "scaling." That means planting dynamite charges in the canyon walls, then going back to break off rock that had not been completely blasted free.

The dam is built of concrete, 6.6 million tons of it, enough to pave a two-lane highway from San Francisco to New York City. Concrete was delivered to the exact spot needed by huge buckets suspended from overhead cableways, the brainchild of construction boss Frank Crowe. Chemical heat caused by setting cement was dissipated by embedding more than 582 miles of 1-inch steel pipe in the concrete and circulating icewater through it from a refrigeration plant. Otherwise the dam still would be cooling today—and cracking and crumbling.

Hundreds of tourists come daily to stand on the canyon walls and watch the engineering marvel of the day taking shape. The entire nation followed the dam's progress through stories in newspapers, magazines and books. Zane Grey, one of the most popular authors of the period, wrote a best-selling novel, based on actual incidents, titled Boulder Dam (Harper Paperbacks).

It captured the feeling that the hero of the day was the engineer and builder, who was doing something that would help make a better world.

Grey saw a much stronger scene than does today's visitor. Water falling from power plant outlets, turbines humming and cars driving across the dam now are the loudest sounds.

It was always intended that people tour the dam, so there are handsome decorations throughout. The exterior is severely simple. Inside are many Art Deco ornaments, including patterns with Native American motifs set in the polished terrazzo floors.

Looking north from the top of the dam, you see the start of man-made Lake Mead. It extends 110 miles upstream toward the Grand Canyon, has a surface area of 247 square miles, and is capable of holding two years worth of the average flow of the Colorado River. That's enough water to cover the state of Pennsylvania one foot deep.

Looking south, you see down the face of the dam to the eight-story office-maintenance building and twin power plants at its base.

Hoover Dam is an arch gravity dam, built like a wedge that is 660 feet wide at the base and 45 feet wide at the top. It is curved—arched—with the convex side facing the weight of water behind it. Wings at either side behind the dam contain giant spillways, each capable of handling the flow of Niagara Falls. Water has poured over the spillways only twice—in 1941, as a test, and in 1983, during the Colorado's highest flowage in history.

The dam holds water back. Water that continues downstream is routed around the dam, through huge tunnels blasted through the rock of the canyon walls. Originally they were used to divert water around temporary earthen dams which enclosed the construction site and let it be cleared out. Now two of them house 30-foot-diameter steel tubes delivering water to the turbines producing electricity, and two are used to handle overflow from the spillways.

There are 17 main turbines in the power plants, divided between the Arizona and Nevada sides, plus two Pelton waterwheels which generate power used in running the dam complex.

The three-level visitor center, on the Nevada side, has temporary displays and a 28-minute movie on the dam. Permanent displays are expected to be ready by autumn. From the theater, most people take the 35-minute guided tour of the dam. High-speed elevators take them 530 feet down through the rock wall of Black Canyon. In most cases, they see the Nevada power plant, then walk out on the deck between the wings, look up from the Arizona side, and return. A favorite place to take pictures is on the line marking the boundary between the states.

Back at the visitor center, there is an overlook with an unobstructed view of the dam, powerhouses, Lake Mead and the Colorado River.

### SPECIFICALLY

The entrance fee to the visitor center is \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for people 62 and older, and children ages 10 to 16. Children 9 and under are free. The fee includes parking in the garage, the film on dam construction, and the tour.

The center opens at 8:30 a.m. daily except Thanksgiving and Christmas, and closes at 6:30 p.m. The last tour leaves at 5:40 p.m. Hours given are Pacific time. If you're coming from the east, remember that Arizona is an hour ahead, on Mountain time.

## SNAPSHOT

### Composing with a Camera

By Carl and Ann Purcell

Copley News Service

One of our traveling companions recently asked us if we had any advice to give on the rules of photographic composition.

The first piece of advice we would have is that you should always feel free to break the rules if you find that it will make an artistic statement that pleases you. Some of the basic rules are as follows:

Keep your horizons straight. In the excitement of seeing a beautiful picture, it is sometimes hard to remember to keep your camera level and the result often looks inebriated.

Keep your background uncluttered. If you have a busy background behind your subject, you can sometimes eliminate it by dropping to one knee and shooting the subject against the sky.

Use plain backgrounds to advantage, such as beaches, flat walls and the sky. If you find it impossible to get your subject away from a messy background, throw it out of focus by opening your shutter to f2.4, for example. This won't work with a very wide-angle lens but should work with a lens

that is 50 mm or stronger.

Every successful photograph usually has a strong focal point. Normally, this will be the subject on which you have focused. You may have to create a focal point, however, by using a small spot of bright color in a monotone scene, for example, or by using a contrast, such as a small figure in a photograph showing a massive monument.

**Pretty pictures are nice but it is the photograph that carries a clean, strong message that is unforgettable.**

Human interest often enhances a photograph, and even the most beautiful seascape sunsets can be more interesting if there is a human figure or two in the picture, even if you have only used them as a out-of-focus silhouette.

Compose with your camera. Cropping out undesirable elements while printing the pictures does not always work. It is far better to use the proper lens length and crop the picture when taking it.

Keep your picture simple. Look for graphic designs in the scenes around you

and take advantage of them. Try to isolate small details. Find unusual angles from which to take the photograph.

If you are taking slides, try underexposing slightly in order to have greater color saturation. (This is to give you deep, rich National Geographic results.) If, for example, you are using Fujichrome 100, try shooting a roll at 125 ISO and see if the color saturation pleases your eye. If you are shooting Kodachrome 50, try shooting it at ISO 64.

Each camera gives individual results, so you should shoot a trial roll for every camera you will be using. If your camera automatically takes the ISO reading off the film, you can adjust your plus/minus compensation for minus .3 or minus .7. After one trial roll of film, you will know which color saturation you prefer.

Finally, look for a picture that makes a statement. Pretty pictures are nice but it is the photograph that carries a clean, strong message that is unforgettable.

Carl and Ann Purcell are America's leading travel writing/photography team.

Successful photographs usually have a strong focal point of interest, such as these San Francisco landmarks.

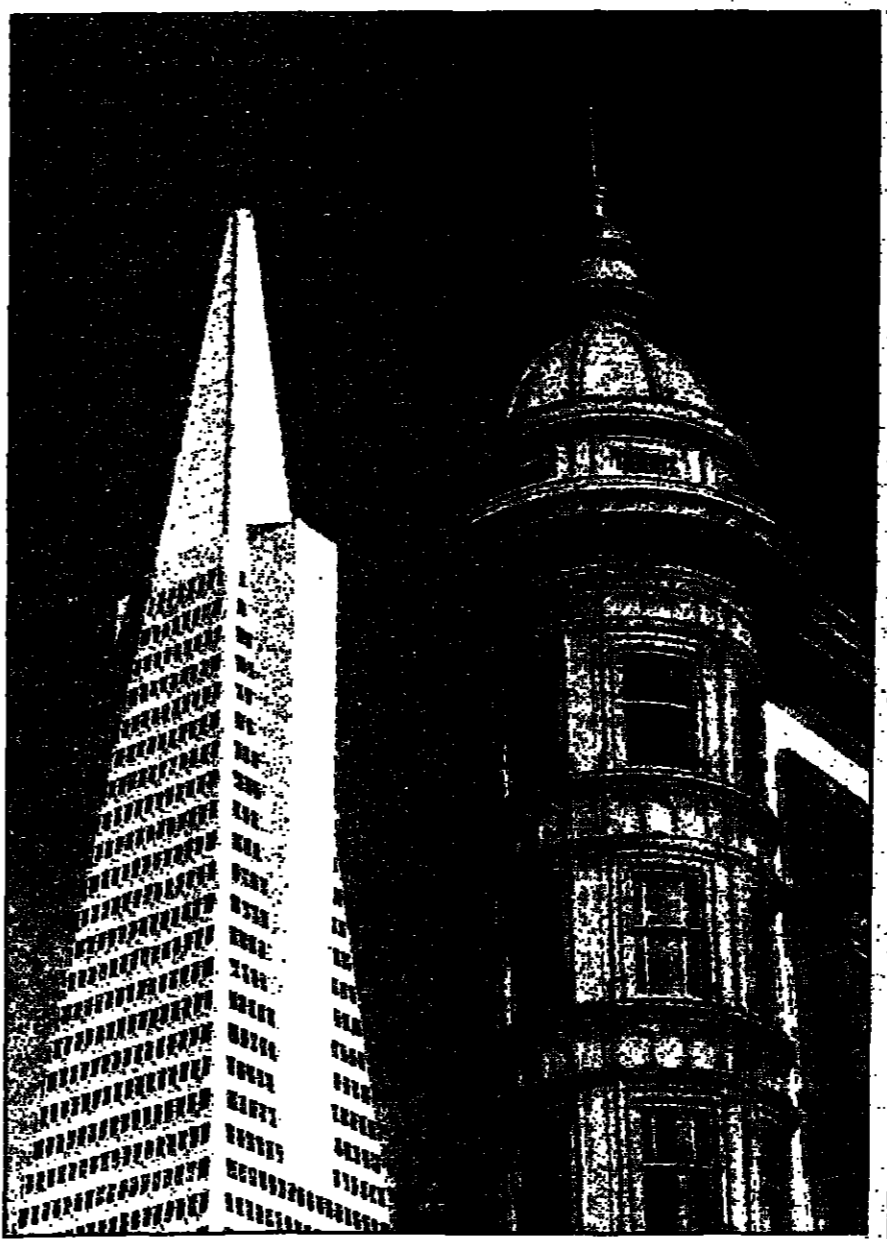


Photo by Ann and Carl Purcell

APR 1996



A port security guard watches as Irish cattle are unloaded this week in Alexandria, Egypt. The shipment of cattle had been delayed by an Egyptian ban on European beef. (Reuters)

## US-European economic fault line emerges in Middle East

**D**IVERGENCES in the economic interests of the United States and European Union are foiling full international cooperation against Iran-backed terrorism.

One of the most important achievements of the Sharm e-Sheikh conference was its call for coordination against terrorism, and indeed a modest start has been made.

But from the outset the economic rivalry between the US and EU has prevented the formation of a solid front. It looks like we cannot expect fully comprehensive security coordination but will instead see a system based on those parties interested in economic cooperation.

To be more more specific: Israel, Jordan and some of the Gulf states (such as Qatar and Oman) are the most likely to work together on security matters. This bloc is being encouraged by Washington.

On the other side we may notice the emergence of a different bloc supported by France, constituting the Palestinian Authority, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and, to some extent, Syria.

The formations of these blocs were already apparent on the eve of the Sharm e-Sheikh summit. Palestinian sources say the US

### ANALYSIS PINHAS INBARI

demanding that Yasser Arafat "immediately" arrest Izzadin Kassar leaders. When the Americans sensed that Arafat may not be falling over himself with enthusiasm, they did not hesitate to tell him he might not be invited to the conference.

It was natural for the Egyptian president, who was the host as well as being Arafat's main ally, to lobby in his favor. But a similar French eagerness to confront Washington in support of Arafat came as somewhat of a surprise.

French support for the Palestinian viewpoint continued at last week's follow-up conference in Washington, almost to the point of seeking the meeting.

This French-led European policy is not unique to Palestinian matters - it is part of an overall stance on Middle East issues.

France also disputes American policy on Iraq and Iran. It has signed economic contracts for several billions of dollars with Iraq, despite United Nations sanctions.

Its economic interest in the PA is of course more modest in scope - it mainly has its eye on the Gaza port project.

Last week's visit to Israel by the Jordanian chief of staff, and Prime Minister Shimon Peres's visit to Qatar and Oman, delineate the boundaries of the real economic and security groupings emerging.

These developments put Israel's new partners in the peace process - the Palestinians and the Jordanians - on opposite axes, and there are implications for the integrity of Palestinian territory in the future.

While the West Bank is likely to develop economic relations with Jordan and be included in the Israel-Jordan economic bloc, the Gaza Strip would lean more and more towards Egypt.

During the closure, shipments of Gaza flowers to Europe began going through Egyptian ports, and flour had already started to arrive from Egypt.

Although these basic shipments did not prove to be economically sound, they may be considered as the beginning of a trend connecting Egypt and Gaza.

There is also another economic aspect of the security coordination. Jordan is a full partner in US efforts to normalize economic relations between Israel and the Arab world. Egyptian and Palestinian efforts are directed at slowing this down.

## Gaddafi says foreign airplanes will fly Moslem pilgrims

**I**N a reversal, Col. Muammar Gaddafi says Libyan planes will not fly Moslem pilgrims to Saudi Arabia this month in defiance of a United Nations ban on air travel.

Last month, he had declared Libya would not seek permission "from Christians and infidels" for the pilgrimage. If Libyans wanted to go, they would use Libyan aircraft, he said.

Moslems are required to go to the holy city of Mecca on the haj pilgrimage at least once in their lives, if they can afford it. This year, the haj culminates towards the end of April.

In the past, Gaddafi has used the pilgrimage to dramatize the impact of UN sanctions, which ban air travel, limit diplomatic contacts and bar the sale of aircraft parts, among other things.

Libya has been under the sanctions since 1992 for refusing to hand over two suspects in the 1988 bombing of a Pan Am jet over Scotland.

Libya sent one jet last year in defiance of the sanctions from its capital at Tripoli to the Saudi city of Jeddah. It then allowed Egyptian planes to transport the rest of its pilgrims.

Gaddafi now announced airplanes belonging to other countries would again fly Libyan pilgrims to Saudi Arabia. He said a lack of spare parts because of the sanctions made it impossible for Libyan planes to carry the pilgrims.

Egypt has already offered to carry Libyans to Saudi Arabia, and has obtained UN approval for 40 flights from Tripoli and the port of Benghazi to Jeddah.

starting April 10. Gaddafi said although he had no objections to other countries seeking permission, Libya would not do it.

"Egypt or any other country can obtain permission for itself," he said in the speech, which was monitored by the BBC. "It is not our business if they apply for permission."

Gaddafi meanwhile agreed to send back to Cairo three Egyptian hijackers who commandeered a plane to Libya last week saying they had a message from God for world leaders. Egypt said.

Information Minister Safwat el-Sherif told Egypt's Middle East News Agency that Gaddafi also agreed to turn over all documents related to the hijack. He said the documents would be

transferred but it was unclear when the hijackers would be returned.

There was no immediate confirmation from the Libyan government.

Last week, a 42-year-old Egyptian, his 17-year-old son and a nephew hijacked an Egypt Air jet after it landed in the southern town of Luxor on a stopover from Jeddah to Cairo.

The plane, with 145 tourists aboard, was flown to Libya where the three surrendered to authorities. No one was hurt in the incident.

The hijackers, Luxor cafeteria owner Mohammed Mahmoud Hamid Selim, his son Khaled and his nephew Ahmed used a Molotov cocktail and a bag of gunpowder to commandeer the plane. (Agencies)

## Jordan signals business must compete for trade

**J**ORDAN'S move to slash trade with Iraq has served warning to its industrialists and businessmen that they should compete for world trade or else face marginalization.

"An industry can't be based on one market and be subjected to its ups and downs," Planning Minister Rima Khalaf told traders angered by the recent move to cut exports to Iraq by nearly half.

Jordan, citing over \$1.2 billion in outstanding Iraqi debts owed, cut official 1996 protocol trade with Iraq, its main market for the last two decades, to just over \$200 million.

Officials said the decision, which followed a cooling of ties since Jordan began calling for changes in Baghdad after top Iraqi defections last August, was taken on pure economic grounds.

But as painful as the move is for some, it could spur government and business to speed up the changes needed to join the mainstream world economy.

Jordanian officials hope for a free-trade deal with the European

Union by the year 2010 and say talks are planned on the kingdom's request to join the World Trade Organization.

Trade with Israel, based on an accord signed last October, will start soon, the first between the states since their 1994 peace treaty. Many are eyeing a potential lucrative Palestinian market evolving next door.

"We are heading towards these major [trade] groupings. There is a big challenge for Jordan to deepen its institutions," said Khaladoun Abu Hassan, head of the influential Jordanian Chambers of Industry.

"We have to keep Jordan's economy and society fit to face these challenges ... our exports have to rise to the standards."

Steps such as last year's lowering of trade barriers sharply divided Jordanian industrialists and traders, who are used to government protection from foreign competition.

But many businessmen in commanding positions have grown wealthy from government deals or monopolies; and industrialists

reliant on trade with Iraq have often sold low-quality goods not acceptable elsewhere.

Even those willing to change face obstacles. Loans for industrial projects carry high interest rates. Government red tape is discouraging foreign investors. It can take years just to obtain a telephone.

"I fear that if the government continues these practices, Jordanian capital will flow out of the country," said leading industrialist Mohammad Samih Barakat.

Jordan's non-diversified economy is burdened with a bloated public sector, high unemployment and growing poverty. Schools fail to prepare students, dumping poorly qualified graduates onto a saturated labor market. Low salaries force many of the best to seek jobs abroad.

The government says it is trying to improve its performance and boost the private sector by giving more legal guarantees and incentives to promote exports.

Although there is much to be done, Jordan can take heart from

its performance since the Gulf crisis forced many Jordanian factories to close, cut employees or find new markets.

While some traders still look to a future in trade with Iraq - and ignore the potential of that with Israel - others have broken free. Many Western-educated members of a new generation are focusing on more international trade.

They believe that reforms are now the only solution and are seizing chances by improving quality and seeking foreign partners to acquire technology. Many have succeeded since the Gulf crisis in selling clothes, food and pharmaceuticals to Western markets.

"You have to be able to compete in price and quality ... what are the alternatives?" said Zeyad Salah, managing director of a contracting company.

"Let us make use of available opportunities to develop the economy and safeguard our children's future, as wars these days are fought economically, not with guns." (Reuters)

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Can We Avoid The Next Holocaust?

# CAN WE AVOID THE NEXT HOLOCAUST?

As The Pages Of This Book Show...  
The Holocaust Could Have Been Avoided.

Our Forefathers Could Have Escaped This Horror And Hundreds Of Others  
Not Too Different From What Took Place In Nazi Germany.

Until now, the cause of the Nazi Holocaust has never been faced, even though the Jewish people in Israel and in the United States are faced with the same scenario today. The same DEADLY FRUITS that brought hatred, persecution, confinement, torture, and death to the Hebrew people during World War II and so many other times throughout history, are again ripe. Unless we deal with these issues now, to make the changes necessary to prevent further suffering, a Holocaust much worse than before, is INEVITABLE!

The information in this book is not intended to belittle or degrade our parents, neither am I saying that I could have prevented those days of destruction if I had been in their shoes. I don't know what I would have done or taught having lived under the same circumstances. I do not doubt, however, after studying the trials that our ancestors were faced with, that these ugly HORRORS WILL AGAIN LIFT THEIR HEADS, and that we will most definitely see and experience history repeating itself if we do the same things our forefathers did.

Please think about this fact! Our ancestors thought they were safe living in Germany, Poland, France, and the other nations named in this book. They thought they had the security that so many believe is offered us today. If you think you are safe and secure, you are as mistaken as our ancestors were in the late thirties and early forties. History shows that European Jews at that time had the same "false sense of security" as Jews do today. Their "hope" faded in a matter of weeks, however, when Hitler came to power in 1933 and immediately began executing his plan ("The Final Solution") to either evacuate or physically exterminate all European Jewry. FOUR HUNDRED SEPARATE PIECES OF LEGISLATION were enacted by the Third Reich between 1933 and 1939. SINGLING OUT THE JEWS - defining, isolating, excluding, segregating and impoverishing all European Jews in Nazi-occupied territories. By the time the war was over in 1945, SIX MILLION of the nine million Jews living in Europe (two-thirds of the Jewish population in Europe) had been MURDERED and two millennia of Jewish civilization had been brought to an end.

This book is written not to condemn our ancestors for the mistakes they made, but for a WARNING to every one living today whose ancestry is of Hebrew descent. If we go the way of our ancestors and make the SAME MISTAKES they made, we are indeed asking for the SAME CURSES to come upon us at the hands of our enemies today that our ancestors suffered at the hand of those who harbored hatred at that time for the Hebrew people, simply because they were born Hebrew.

In this book you will not only find the CAUSES for the Holocaust, you'll also find the causes for all the troubles our ancestors have suffered throughout history. But what's more important, you'll find the reasons for these curses and HOW TO AVOID them altogether. And what's even more important, solutions are presented in this book that can prepare our people to prevent another Holocaust. But we must act now, and if we do - if we will - ISRAEL WILL BE SAFE as a nation, and our FAMILIES WILL BE SAFE as a people within their own nation, as they were only one other time in the history of the Hebrew people. If you love Israel, or even if you only love the Hebrew people, read this book. Don't stop with just reading it however - you'll have the INSIGHT TO GUARD AGAINST history repeating itself. Take that knowledge to others, because when we have spread this knowledge to all the Hebrew people, we as a whole will save our people from the sure coming CURSES KNOCKING AT ISRAEL'S DOOR TODAY - YES TODAY, and even as this book was being written. The sure-to-come dangers that we - as a whole - face today, are also documented within these pages.

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Can We Avoid The Next Holocaust?

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Melchior, Brother and Sister, signed and dated 1952, oil on canvas, 45 5/8 x 35 in.  
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# BUSINESS & FINANCE

## Five more years

ON THE AGENDA  
AMOTZ ASA-EL

ONE can hardly envy Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel these days. Faced with a wasteful government, sheepish Treasury officials and an often short-sighted industrial establishment, he increasingly seems like a cardiologist among witch doctors.

The full scope of the government's fiscal licentiousness, though long well-known, is systematically presented in the Bank of Israel's annual report, officially released to the public yesterday.

Considering the exceptionally delicate circumstances - with the political system bracing for an election and Frenkel's own term expiring in four months - the governor made a special effort to choose his words carefully yesterday.

Still, they came out scathing. A deficit-ridden government should be no different from an indebted household, which is expected to reduce costs to match earnings, explained Frenkel.

In other words, 1995's trade deficit of more than \$11 billion, current account deficit which exceeded \$4b., and budget deficit which equaled 3.5% of gross domestic product, could not possibly have resulted from the shekel's ostensibly too high exchange rate or the central bank's tight monetary policy. Rather, they were the equivalent of that household continuing to borrow and spend while denying the painful, but obvious, meaning

of its balance sheets.

More specifically, with its generous increases of public-sector salaries by 16% in real terms since 1992 - while private-sector pay grew by 4% - and with its failure to launch an ambitious privatization program, the government actively fueled a dramatic acceleration of consumption.

From his vantage point, Frenkel was therefore compelled to warn that the economy's currently robust growth - 7.1% last year and 6% on average annually since the beginning of the decade - would not persist should there be no major fiscal about-face.

Sadly, the validity of this common sense is not only the subject of a futile debate, but in fact Frenkel's upper hand in the struggles surrounding it is by no means secure.


For many officials, politicians and industrialists, a strong shekel means harder work. To bureaucrats it means deciding which redundant fellow-bureaucrats to sack, to politicians it means confronting powerful unions of defunct state companies, and to industrialists it means storming world markets bare chested, shorn of government protection in the form of a weaker currency.

It's all very tough, but equally inevitable. Molesting Frenkel for having reacted to all this in the most reasonable monetary way - is absurd. All complaints should be addressed to those who shaped the landscape in which he is compelled to maneuver with the means placed at his disposal by law.

In a country where public attention is understandably focused elsewhere, and where decision-makers are prone to kill the prophet and place a yes-man at the helm of the central bank, it is crucial that someone tell us the naked macro-economic truth as it is.

Unfortunately, though expectedly, the entire political system all but ignores the deficit crisis generally, and the Bank of Israel's report specifically. In all likelihood, leading stars of this election campaign have barely a vague idea of what's written in it. Hopefully, they will at least not stand in Frenkel's way come July.

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## Scitex shareholders reject Gilo's bid

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

THE four largest shareholders of Scitex yesterday announced their rejection of high-tech entrepreneur David Gilo's proposal to gain control of the company.

The shareholders - International Paper Company, PEC Israel Economic Corp., Discount Investment and Clal Electronics Industries - who collectively hold about 36% of the issued and outstanding shares of Scitex, released the following statement:

"David Gilo's proposal to negotiate an acquisition of Scitex at a purported offer price of \$20 per share represents the wrong direction for Scitex.

"We are not interested in pursuing a sale of our Scitex shares, and certainly not on the terms that Mr. Gilo implied. We believe that the best interests of all shareholders are served by permitting the company to realize its full potential."

Gilo's hostile takeover bid earlier this week was to purchase Scitex for \$856 million, approximately 44 percent above its market value.

Gilo said he is willing to negotiate a transaction to acquire Scitex for \$20 per share in cash, about 44% over the price of the

company's stock on March 29, the last day of trading before the proposal was publicly announced.

Capital market analysts expressed surprise at the shareholders' decision and predicted that if Scitex continues to register losses, the shareholders are likely to replace Scitex chairman Dov Tadmor on the basis of "incompetence."

The analysts said they expected the shareholders to agree to the offer on condition that the sale price is raised, as is customary in proposals of this kind.

"If they [the major shareholders] do not sell, they will be faced with a problem," a source said. "Assuming that Scitex performance does not improve in a year's time, and the share drops to \$14 or \$16 per share, the company's shareholders may decide to get rid of David Weinsal [manager of Clal one of the major shareholders] and Tadmor."

"Already today, the Scitex board of management is critical of Tadmor's and Weinsal's management of the company," the source said. "Their decision to reject the proposal puts the shareholders' representatives in a bind.

Personally, I don't believe Tadmor or Weinsal will be able to contribute anything to the company this year that they couldn't contribute in previous years."

Tadmor could not be reached for comment. In a Scitex press release the board said that "the board has resolved to continue Scitex's strategy of exploring the options available to Scitex for maximizing shareholder value. In fact, the company has already taken a number of decisive actions to increase shareholder value - including acquisitions to realign Scitex's basic business strategy, management changes and significant expense reductions."

"Working closely with financial adviser Alex Brown, the board will continue to vigorously pursue a program to further enhance our shareholders' investment in the company."

A source related to Gilo said the entrepreneur will not back off from his decision to gain control of Scitex.

"David is decisive in his offer," the source said. "He worked on the subject with a team of people during the last few months and has considered all the possibilities."



Poland's former president Lech Walesa stands by one of the electric trolleys he will repair after resuming his old job as a \$250-a-month electrician at the Gdansk shipyard yesterday. Walesa said he was returning to the ailing yard, where he established the Soviet bloc's first free trade union 15 years ago, mainly because the ex-communists now in power had still not passed a law giving him a pension as ex-president.

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

El Al and American Airlines have signed an agreement for code-sharing on flights between Tel Aviv and Chicago, Los Angeles, Miami, and New York. According to the agreement, a specified number of El Al flights between Tel Aviv and New York and Chicago will also be listed as American Airlines flights. At the same time, certain American Airlines flights between New York and Chicago, Los Angeles, and Miami will also be listed as El Al flights.

The code-sharing arrangement provides passengers with more convenient flight schedules and the opportunity to make seat reservations and obtain boarding cards at their point of embarkation. Passengers will also be able to decide whether to use their frequent flyer mileage for El Al or American Airlines.

*Haim Shapiro*

Pepsi launches new look can in \$500m. campaign: Pepsi painted a Concorde supersonic airliner electric blue yesterday as part of a \$500 million project to claw back the market from arch-rival Coca-Cola. In a razzamatazz media launch, PepsiCo Inc. changed the color of its cans from red, white, and blue and flew in supermodels Claudia Schiffer and Cindy Crawford, and US tennis star Andre Agassi, to publicize a series of television commercials they were hired to make. The campaign, called "Project Blue," is aimed at capturing the imagination of the teenage consumer market in Europe, the Middle East, and Asia, and is seen as crucial to Pepsi sales in the next century.

*Reuter*

New global arms export controls to be set up: Western and former communist nations were due to begin a closed-door meeting yesterday to set up a global control regime for military exports in the post-Cold War era, an Austrian Foreign Ministry spokesman said. The regime, known as the Wassenaar Arrangement, will be inaugurated after the two-day plenary session.

"I can't disclose where they are meeting, who is attending, nor what they are discussing," Foreign Ministry spokesman Stefan Pehringer said.

*Reuter*

## Unilever buys 60% of Witco Israel

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

UNILEVER, an Anglo-Dutch firm, has acquired 60 percent of Witco Israel, the home and personal care company, from the US Witco Corp. The companies announced yesterday.

The companies did not disclose the terms of the transaction. The remaining 40% of Witco's shares are owned by Delek Investments.

Unilever entered Israel last September, with the purchase of half the shares of Strauss ice cream. The international concern is publicly quoted, with an annual turnover of \$50 billion, 15% of which comes from its home and personal care activities.

The concern, which employs a total of 300,000 workers in 80 countries worldwide, is also engaged in the food and chemicals fields.

were informed of the change in ownership yesterday. The Kinyat Ata based company has been engaged in the cleaning and detergent product market for more than 40 years. Its company's line of products include the Pink, Clean, King, Image and Clean Industry series.

Unilever will make a significant entry in the home and personal care markets in Israel, where Witco Israel has strong positions," Unilever said in a press release. Thanks to the new partnership, Witco Israel will benefit from the most advanced technical know-how supporting Unilever and local brands.

Witco Israel's 170 employees

## Bio-Technology reports turnaround in net profits

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

BIO-TECHNOLOGY General, the manufacturer of engineered and other products for human health care, reported a turnaround in net profits last year to \$4.8 million, compared with a net loss of \$7.4m. in 1994.

Management said net income for the last two years reflected an extraordinary gain of \$1.4m. and \$1.5m. from debt, due to debt forgiveness and research and development revenue of about \$3 resulting from the return of warrants in connection with the wind-up of the company's relationship with Bio-Cardia Corp. Revenues last year increased to \$28m. from \$17.4m. in 1994. Revenues from product sales rose 95% to \$21.4m. from \$11m.

The increase reflected broader worldwide distribution of the company's human growth hormone and hyaluronic acid, as well as the US launch of Oxandrin. Expenses declined 7% to \$24.5m. from \$26.4m.

## Discount Bank of NY names new president

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

ISRAEL Discount Bank of New York has appointed Arie Sheer as president.

Sheer, currently chairman of Industrial Development Bank, will replace Aharon Cabane on June 1.

Sheer has past experience in governmental offices and banks and was recently named by Finance Minister Avraham Shohat as a suitable candidate to serve as chairman of the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange.

He served as economic attache for Argentina from 1974-1979, Treasury representative in the US from 1981-1983 and the Treasury accountant general from 1983-1989.

Since 1989, Sheer has served as active chairman for Industrial Development Bank. Israel Discount Bank of New York, Israel Discount Bank's largest subsidiary and the largest overseas Israeli bank, completed the year with an increase in net profit to \$24.5m from \$16.2m in 1994.

THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND THE ARTS  
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Invitation to Submit Proposals on **Electro-Optics Topics:**

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- \* Non Conventional Optics
- \* Electro-Optic Devices and Sensors
- \* Ultrafast Optical Signal Processing and Storage

Detailed information on areas of priority, conditions applying to submission of applications, and budgetary details are available at the research authorities of the research institutes and at the Ministry of Science. Proposals must be submitted to the Ministry of Science on the appropriate form, in 15 copies, not later than May 30, 1996.

The Ministry will appoint a professional review panel for each research field announced in this notice (Micro-Electronics, Advanced Materials, Electro-Optics, Telecommunications).

Invitation to Submit Proposals on **Advanced Materials:**

- \* Functional Materials

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- \* Electro-Optics & Micro-Electronics - Joe van Zwaren, Head of Exact Sciences. Tel. 02-847095, E-mail: JO@most.gov.il
- \* Advanced Materials - Dr. Avraham Cohen, Supervisor of Research in the Exact Sciences. Tel. 02-825163, E-mail: Avraham@most.gov.il
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- \* Administrative and Financial Matters - Avi Anati, Director, Research Funds Division, Ministry of Science and the Arts. Tel. 02-847057, E-mail: Avi@most.gov.il

Invitation to Submit Proposals on **Micro-Electronics Topics:**

- \* Gallium Arsenide: Device and Processes
- \* Silicon Devices and Processes

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**ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS**

**Patrah (foreign currency deposit rates) (1.4.96)**

Currency (deposit term)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$50,000)	4.250	4.250	4.250
Pound sterling (£100,000)	4.250	4.250	4.250
German mark (DM 200,000)	1.750	1.750	2.125
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	0.250	0.250	0.525
Yen (10 million yen)	—	—	—

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

**Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates\* (2.4.96)**

Currency basket	Buy	Sell	Banknotes	Rep. Rates*
U.S. dollar	3.4708	3.5288	—	3.5181
German mark	3.0831	3.1329	—	3.1240
French franc	2.0852	2.1104	—	2.1062
Japanese yen (100)	4.7094	4.7394	—	4.7098
Swiss franc (100)	0.8109	0.8208	—	0.8108
Italian lira (100)	2.5747	2.6211	—	2.6167
Dutch guilder	1.6920	1.6921	—	1.6918
Spanish peseta (100)	2.6871	2.6889	—	2.6872
Swedish krona	0.4917	0.4922	—	0.4915
Portuguese escudo	0.4852	0.4880	—	0.4884
Denmark krone	0.3587	0.3596	—	0.3593
French franc (100)	0.0527	0.0528	—	0.0528
Canadian dollar	2.2759	2.3194	—	2.2941
Australian dollar	2.4118	2.4307	—	2.4201
S. African rand	0.7879	0.7930	—	0.7905
Belgian franc (10)	1.0195	1.0296	—	1.0282
Austrian schilling (10)	2.9917	3.0028	—	3.0002
Italian lira (1000)	1.9887	1.9926	—	1.9904
Japanese yen (100)	—	—	—	—
Swedish krona	—	—	—	—
Portuguese escudo	—	—	—	—
Spanish peseta (100)	—	—	—	—

\* Rates vary according to bank. \*\* Bank of Israel.  
SOURCE: BANK LEUM

Teva leads TASE rebound

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

ROBERT DANIEL



STOCKS rebounded from three days of losses yesterday, led by a 3.75 percent gain in shares of Teva.

The indexes finished a shortened trading week little changed. The Tel Aviv Stock Exchange will be closed today and tomorrow for Pesach.

Also this week, Bank Hapoalim reported fourth-quarter earnings fell 32% on higher provisions for bad loans. Bank Hapoalim shares rose 3.4% yesterday, recouping Monday's 2% loss.

The Maof Index advanced 1.09% to 204.38, while the Two-Sided Index climbed 0.75% to 194.04.

The Maof lost 0.4% on the week; The Two-Sided shed 1.09% to 194.04. Some NIS 90 million of shares traded across the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, about 13% more than the average during March.

In the broader market, declining stocks outnumbered advancing issues more than 2 to 1. Teva shares leaped as Biocraft Laboratories Inc. said it received US Food and Drug Administration clearance to market a generic version of an unclear drug marketed by Hoechst AG.

Teva's shares have been depressed recently by, among other things, the indictment of its chief executive, Eli Hurvitz, on Sunday. The charges relate to alleged tax evasion at Promedico, a Teva subsidiary from 1980 to 1986.

Cial Electronics, which jumped 6% on Monday, finished unchanged yesterday.

The most active share on the exchange, IDB Holdings, added 4% as NIS 14.6m. of shares changed hands. An affiliate, IDB Development, rose 2.25% on NIS 1.6m. traded.

IDB Holdings is the investment arm of Israel's Recanati family. Through another affiliate, Discout Investments, and through PEC Israel Economic Corp., a publicly traded investment company, IDB Holdings controls 12.1% of Scitex.

Traders speculated that foreign investors were buying shares in IDB Holdings. They also suggested that the Recanati family itself might be buying some shares. (Bloomberg)

European stocks rise

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuters) - European stocks moved ahead yesterday, led by a strong performance in Paris, but many investors were nervous about interest rate prospects ahead of US employment figures due this week.

In Paris, shares climbed strongly by 0.75 percent - at one point touching a 19-month trading high of 2072.66 on the strength of takeover speculation and renewed confidence in the French economy.

jumping 51 points on Monday. In the broader market, advancing issues led declines by a small margin on moderate volume of 237 million shares on the New York Stock Exchange.

The Nasdaq composite index was up 2.57 points at 1,109.14. The American Stock Exchange index was off 0.96 at 571.48.

IBM gain pulls Dow up

WALL STREET REPORT

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Blue-chip stocks edged higher yesterday, drawing what strength they had from a rally in the shares of International Business Machines Corp., a component of the Dow Jones index.

At 1 p.m. EST, the Dow Jones industrial average was up 10.48 points at 5,648.20, pausing after

until the US switches its clocks for Daylight Savings Time, the Dow Jones results published in the paper will be from 3 p.m. New York time.

CURRENCY CROSS RATES

Table with columns: MARK, STERLING, YEN, SF\$, FF\$. Includes values for various currencies like German Mark, British Sterling, Japanese Yen, Swiss Franc, and French Franc.

SHARON

(Continued from Page 1) To the question of whether in this Sharon misled the prime minister, the answer is in another question: whether the prime minister Menachem Begin knew at the beginning of the operation that the IDF intended to reach Beirut... the answer is no. The prime minister intended to carry out an operation in the same extent as was approved by the government, that is 40 km. [into Lebanon] in an estimated time of 100 days.

"This means that until August 14, 1987 [Menachem Begin] thought that [Sharon] did not initially plan Operation Peace for Galilee to be far-ranging to include Beirut, but believed that the operation was expanded as a result of the chain of responses to immediate military exigencies on the ground."

In another deposition released yesterday, Menachem Begin's personal secretary wrote that the premier's relations with Sharon soured during the war.

Yona Klitovitzky, the secretary, quoted Begin as saying about the beginning of the war to reach Beirut. Another deposition by Haifa Mayor Amram Mizra, then OC Northern Command, also claims Sharon deceived Begin.

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multi-sided trading table with columns: Name, Price, % Change, Volume, Shares. Includes stocks like Adco, Azura, and various industrial and financial institutions.

Two-sided trading table with columns: Name, Price, % Change, Volume, Shares. Includes stocks like Adco, Azura, and various industrial and financial institutions.

Key Representative Rates table with columns: Rate, Change. Includes US Dollar, Sterling, and Mark rates.

Dollar crossrates, US\$

Table with columns: Country, Rate, Change. Lists dollar crossrates for various countries.

Labor rates

Table with columns: Rate, Change. Lists labor rates for various categories.

Foreign financial data courtesy of CommStock Trading Ltd.

Text describing foreign financial data services provided by CommStock Trading Ltd.

US commodities

Table with columns: Commodity, Price, Change. Lists prices for various US commodities.

London commodities

Table with columns: Commodity, Price, Change. Lists prices for various London commodities.

Spot market metals (US)

Table with columns: Metal, Price, Change. Lists spot market metals prices.

New York metal futures

Table with columns: Metal, Price, Change. Lists New York metal futures prices.

ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK advertisement with logo and slogan 'THE PEOPLE YOU CAN BANK ON'

INTERNATIONAL STOCK PRICES

Large table listing international stock prices for various countries including New York, London, and other global markets.

# Kentucky tops Syracuse for NCAA crown

**EAST RUTHERFORD, NJ (AP)** — No coach faced more pressure. No team applied it better.

Kentucky won its sixth national championship Monday night, its first since 1978, by thriving on the highest of demands that dogged the team from the very start of the season.

The pressure ended, for now, with a 76-67 victory over Syracuse, giving coach Rick Pitino his first national title after seven years as Wildcats coach.

"I tried to use pressure as a motivator for our staff and players," he said. "Every fan they see on campus says, 'Win it all. Win it all.' I wanted the pressure to be a vehicle."

It was, and it drove them right to the top.

The victory capped a season that started with the Wildcats ranked No. 1 and it came thanks largely to the scoring of senior Tony Delk and freshman Ron Mercer and that pressure defense.

Kentucky's rich tradition starts with the sport's winningest coach, Adolph Rupp. Under "The Baron," the Wildcats won four titles from 1948 to 1958. He won 876 games and lost 190 over 42 seasons.

Joe B. Hall was the coach when the Wildcats won it all in 1978 and the program is the winningest in the history of college basketball with 1,649, two more than North Carolina. Its six titles are second only to UCLA's 11.

"We're a little bit like the Green Bay Packers," Pitino said. "The entire state of Kentucky owns our basketball team."

They may not own it, but they root for it with all their hearts and demand excellence from it.

Syracuse earned the respect a team deserves to get when it is a 14-point underdog and never even falls behind by that many points. The Orangemen, who did trail by 13 with 11 minutes left, were within 64-62 with 4:46 to play.

Syracuse has the most NCAA tournament victories without a title. A 36th NCAA win would have meant a first national championship. Now, this Syracuse team joins the one-point losers to Indiana in the 1987 championship game in sustaining the most bitter defeats in school history.

"We knew it would be tough," Syracuse coach Jim Boeheim said. "Kentucky made a couple of great plays when they had to. Delk is a great senior and a great player."

Delk, voted the outstanding player, finished with 24 points and tied the championship game record with seven 3-pointers. The Wildcats (34-2) finished with 12 3s, critical in cracking Syracuse's 2-3 zone. Kentucky tied the championship game record for 3s by a team.

Syracuse (29-9) played only three reserves, went outscored 26-0 and took just one shot.

Mercer came up with a career-high 20 points, all but six of the points the deep Kentucky bench provided. More important, the extra bodies enabled the Wildcats to keep up the defensive pressure; Syracuse finished with 24 turnovers, 19 more than it had in the semifinal win over Mississippi State.

John Wallace, the senior who returned to school rather than enter the NBA last year, finished with 29 points and 10 rebounds. But he left the game in tears when he fouled out with 1:06 to play and Kentucky leading 72-67.

"It was a hard-hitting game. You can't worry about personal fouls," Wallace said. "I play regardless. I don't care how many fouls were on me. It was the last game of my college career."

Kentucky, which beat top-ranked Massachusetts 81-74 in the semifinals in a very physical game, shot 38 percent against Syracuse, the lowest percentage by a winning team in the championship game since Loyola of Chicago shot 27 percent in 1963.

"It has to take great character



**WILDCAT STRIKE** — University of Kentucky players celebrate NCAA victory. Coach Rick Pitino (foreground) savors the Wildcats' 6th NCAA championship. (Reuters)

to come back from that game and win shooting the percentage we shot," Pitino said, referring to Saturday's semifinal.

Kentucky had won its first five tournament games by an average of 28.2 points and the blowout that most people expected in the title game looked like a distinct possibility when Delk's four-point play with 11:12 left gave the Wildcats a 59-46 lead.

But the Orangemen came up with a 12-3 run and Wallace's three-point play got them within 62-58 with 7:58 left.

"They showed tremendous heart and guts," Pitino said.

Wallace made two free throws with 4:46 left to make it 64-62. Syracuse was there long after it had been expected to fold up and go away. In fact, Kentucky called a timeout with 5:24 to play be-

cause its players looked exhausted.

Delk missed a 3-pointer, but Walter McCarty tipped it in, and after Jason Cipolla missed a driving jumper for Syracuse, Derek Anderson got the backbreaker of the 12 3-pointers with 3:52 left.

"It came down to those two plays really," Boeheim said. "They've been the best team in the country for most of the year

with Massachusetts. We put ourselves in a position to win the basketball game and they made great plays."

The Orangemen were able to get within five points one more time, but soon Kentucky had its title and Pitino was able to cut down the nets.

Anderson and Antoine Walker each had 11 points for Kentucky. Forward Todd Burgan, who did a

great job helping handle the full-court pressure, finished with 19 points for the Orangemen.

Lazarus Sims, the Syracuse point guard expected to have trouble against the pressure, finished with six points, seven assists and seven turnovers. He missed a couple of minutes in the second half after he injured his left wrist in a collision. The Orangemen turned the ball over on each of the three possessions he missed.

Syracuse couldn't have asked for more from the zone in the first half as Kentucky struggled with its shooting from everywhere. With the exception of Delk's three 3-pointers in the opening-eight minutes, the Wildcats were missing layups, drives, short jumpers and long ones.

A 3-pointer by Wallace with 3:00 left in the half tied it 28-28, then Mercer and Delk combined for all the points in a 12-2 run over the next 1:49.

Mercer, considered the best high school player in the country last season, started the sport with a three-point play, and his second 3-pointer of the game was sandwiched by two 3s from Delk.

Otis Hill's three-point play got Syracuse within 40-33, but Walker made two free throws with 36 seconds left and the Wildcats had a 42-33 halftime lead.

"I'm proud of my guys," Boeheim said. "They came back. My kids had so much heart all year and in this tournament, and I think they gained respect."

"I told them at halftime, it is enough when you give everything you have."

When it was over, Pitino had a huge smile on his face and the thousands of blue-clad Cats fans savored the moment they had been waiting for for 18 years.

But then Pitino quickly returned to his world of pressure.

"I'm not relieved," he said. "We've got to go out and get ourselves a big man. So recruiting is on my mind right now. I'm going to allow myself a day or two to enjoy it."

## Reds-Expos game postponed after umpire collapses and dies

**CINCINNATI (AP)** — Umpire John McSherry, who planned to see doctors the next day about an irregular heart beat, collapsed on the field seven pitches into Cincinnati's opener Monday and died at a hospital about an hour later.

The Reds and Montreal Expos postponed the game about an hour after McSherry collapsed. It was scheduled to be replayed in its entirety yesterday.

University Hospital said McSherry died of "sudden cardiac death," a condition in which the heart beats out of control.

McSherry, 51, was listed at 328 lbs. and had a history of medical problems. He had told the other umpires that he was going to be treated Tuesday for arrhythmia, or abnormal heart beat.

McSherry, the crew chief and home plate umpire, turned away two minutes into the top of the first inning and headed for the tunnel behind the plate that leads to the umpires' dressing room. He fell face-first when he reached the warning track.

McSherry was believed to be the first major league umpire to be fatally stricken during a game. Ray Chapman is the only player to die after an on-field accident — he was beaned by Carl Mays in 1920 and died shortly thereafter.

**Braves 10, Giants 8**  
Greg Maddux wasn't at his best, but he was still good enough. And so was Atlanta.

Maddux, winner of an unprecedented four straight Cy Young Awards, allowed nine hits and four runs in 5 1/2 innings as the Braves opened defense of their World Series championship with a home win.

The Braves hit five homers off three San Francisco pitchers, but Atlanta barely held on in the ninth. Trailing 10-5, the Giants scored three times off Mark Wohlers on Mel Hall's RBI single and Glenallen Hill's two-run homer before Pedro Borbon got Shawn Dunston on a fly to left for a save.

Ryan Klesko had a two-run homer and two-run single for Atlanta. Jeff Blauser, Fred McGriff, Mark Lemke and Jerome Walton also homered for the Braves.

**Mets 7, Cardinals 6**  
Host New York thrilled its opening-day crowd of 42,060 by rallying from a six-run deficit.



**GRIEF-STRICKEN** — Cincinnati Reds manager Ray Knight consoles third base umpire Tom Hallion as they watch paramedics trying to resuscitate home plate umpire John McSherry. The 51-year-old umpire died of a heart attack. (Reuters)

Held to four hits by Andy Benes and trailing 6-3 through six innings, the Mets strung together five singles and a sacrifice fly to score four times in the seventh and spoil Tony La Russa's debut as St. Louis' manager.

Todd Hundley hit a two-run homer and former Cardinal Bernard Gilkey had a solo home run and a key single for the Mets. Rookie shortstop Rey Ordenez

made two nice plays up the middle, including a diving stop to throw out Willie McGee to end the game. The victory was a carry-over from last season, when the Mets won 28 of their final 43 games.

**Cubs 5, Padres 4 (10)**  
Ryne Sandberg warmed Cubs fans at frosty Wrigley Field with his return to baseball, and Mark Grace made the celebration com-

plete with a game-winning, 10th-inning single.

Sandberg, the National League's MVP in 1984, went 0-for-3 with two walks, but the second baseman handled seven chances flawlessly in his first game in nearly two years.

Grace slapped his decisive single to left field with one out in the 10th, immediately after Sandberg's second walk of the game had loaded the bases off loser Trevor Hoffman.

Sandberg received a big ovation when introduced before the game, and a louder and longer one when he walked to the plate in the bottom of the first. It was his first game since June 10, 1994, when he abruptly retired.

**Dodgers 4, Astros 3**  
Todd Hollandsworth began the Los Angeles Dodgers' chase for a fifth straight NL Rookie of the Year award, hitting a three-run double in an opening day victory over Houston.

With Houston leading 1-0 in the fifth, Brett Butler, Mike Piazza and Eric Karros hit consecutive one-out singles to tie the score. Mike Blowers walked with two outs, loading the bases, and Hollandsworth drove a pitch from Shane Reynolds to center, with the ball rolling to the fence.

The game drew 34,375 to the Astrodome, leaving about 18,000 empty seats. Astros owner Drayton McLane has threatened to move or sell the team unless attendance improves this season.

Ramon Martinez won his seventh consecutive decision for the Dodgers, allowing three runs and six hits in six innings.

**Pirates 4, Marlins 0**  
Paul Wagner pitched 6 1/2 scoreless innings and rookie Jason Kendall drove in two runs for the visiting Bucs.

Before a sellout crowd of 41,815, Kendall made his major league debut at age 21, going 3-for-4 with two RBI singles and a double. The catcher also threw out a runner attempting to steal.

Jay Bell added a two-out, two-run double in the eighth.

Wagner, who had a major league-high 16 losses last season, earned the victory by allowing just two hits and one walk while striking out five.

## Jays hit jackpot in Vegas

**LAS VEGAS (AP)** — In a city known for slot machines and poker tables, the Toronto Blue Jays opened their season with three of a kind: home runs.

Major league baseball made its Vegas debut Monday night, and the Blue Jays beat the Oakland Athletics 9-6 behind homers by John Olerud, Alex Gonzalez and Domingo Cedeno.

The A's were forced out of the Oakland Coliseum this week because of uncompleted renovations, so they'll play their first six games at Cashman Field. The game drew 7,294 to the 9,353-seat ballpark, the home of the Triple A Las Vegas Stars.

In one of the lighter moments before the game, an Elvis impersonator joked and chatted with some of the players and played to the crowd strumming a bat.

Desert winds gusting to 26 mph helped the power hitters. Terry Steinbach connected for the A's.

Erik Hanson got the win in his Toronto debut, allowing three runs and four hits in seven innings with five strikeouts and four walks. Tony Castillo and Mike Timlin finished the five-hitter, with Timlin getting three outs for the save.

**Twins 8, Tigers 6**  
Brad Radke and Matt Lawton made sure Minnesota didn't need Kirby Puckett on opening day.

With vision problems keeping Puckett out of the opening-day lineup for the first time since 1984, Radke struck out two high eight and Lawton had two hits and two RBIs in Puckett's place as the Twins won at home.

Radke, making the first opening-day start, gave up five singles in six innings. Dave Stevens worked the ninth for the save.

After John Flaherty opened the second with a hit, Radke retired 15 of the last 17 batters he faced. Dave Hollins had two hits, two RBIs and two runs scored in his Minnesota debut before a crowd of 30,195 at the Metrodome.

Felipe Lira was the loser, giving up six runs and eight hits in three innings.

**Rangers 5, Red Sox 3**  
Ken Hill, making his debut for Texas, allowed eight hits in 8 1/2 innings.

Craig Worthington, starting because Dean Palmer has an injured hamstring, homered for the Rangers, who drew 40,484 to The Ballpark in Arlington, about 8,000 short of a sellout.

Hill pitched for St. Louis and Cleveland last year, then signed an \$8.15 million, two-year deal with Texas. He struck out seven and walked none. After Tim Lincecum homered in the ninth, Ed Vosberg finished for the save.

Roger Clemens, 3-1 in seven season openers coming in, allowed four runs and three hits in five innings, struck out five and walked six.

**... And some are rained out**  
**BALTIMORE (AP)** — President Clinton got another 24 hours to loosen up his throwing arm.  
Clinton and thousands of baseball fans had to change their plans Monday after a steady rain postponed the season-opener between the Baltimore Orioles and Kansas City Royals at Camden Yards.  
The game was scheduled to be made up yesterday, when the forecast is for sunny skies and cool temperatures.  
Clinton decided against throwing the ceremonial first pitch at last year's opener because of the baseball strike.  
Rain in Philadelphia and snow in Cleveland caused postponement of the Phillies-Rockies and Indians-Yankees games. Both were scheduled to be played yesterday.

## IFA court hears Ramat Gan, Taiba case

**DEREK FATTAL**  
THE Israel Football Association's Disciplinary Court last night heard evidence from representatives of Hapoel Ramat Gan and Hapoel Taiba concerning last weekend's Second Division meeting between the two sides which had to be abandoned after one of the linesmen was struck by Ramat Gan player Yuval Naim.  
By press time last night no verdict had been handed down by the court.

## Israel rugby team to host Luxembourg

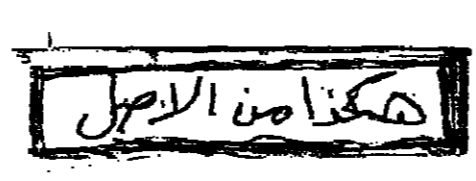
**THE Israel Rugby Football Union will host its first-ever international fixture when the national team takes on Luxembourg on Sunday, April 7.**  
The game will be played at the new Herzliya municipal soccer stadium at 3 pm.  
The Pool B5 match is organized by the Paris-based Federation Internationale de Rugby Amateur and will feature French international referee Daniel Pascal.  
For further information, telephone 09-452219.  
*Post Sports Staff*

Naim sought to defend charges of bringing the game into disrepute claiming that he did not intentionally make contact with the official.  
Taiba club official Rafik Haj Yihye was also present at the proceedings, and was expected to give evidence concerning his actions following the game's abandonment.

## Players cleared of drugs allegations

**LONDON (Reuters)** — English soccer players Lee Sharpe and Nicky Summerbee have been cleared of accusations of drug-taking, the Football Association said on yesterday.  
The FA had asked England international Sharpe's Manchester United club and Summerbee's Manchester City to investigate allegations by a British newspaper last month.  
"Manchester United and Manchester City have exonerated their players Lee Sharpe and Nicky Summerbee of any involvement with drug abuse," an FA statement said.

**SCOREBOARD**  
UEFA CUP — Last night's semifinal first leg results: Bayern Munich 2, Barcelona 2; Slavia Prague 0, Borussia 1.  
NHL — Monday's results: Boston 1, Ottawa 1; Buffalo 6, Montreal 4; Florida 3, Hartford 2; Edmonton 6, Vancouver 2.











# Nimrodi, Ronen plead not guilty

RAINE MARCUS

NEARLY eight months after the indictment, *Ma'ariv* chairman and former editor-in-chief Ofer Nimrodi and the daily's security officer David Ronen pleaded not guilty in Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court yesterday to charges of commissioning wiretapping from and paying hush money to private investigators Rafi Friedan and Ya'acov Tsur.

Nimrodi, also the owner of the Hachsharat Hayishuv insurance company, and Ronen, the company's vice president, were indicted last August on 15 counts of commissioning wiretaps on senior *Yedioth Aharonot* editors, employees, and others and paying Friedan and Tsur monthly sums for not cooperating with police. The indictment was made possible after Tsur secretly turned state's witness in February 1995.

Since August, defense lawyers Dan Avi-Yitzhak and Yehuda Weinstein have tried to have the indictment canceled and have repeatedly argued that the district

attorney's office has not made all of the evidence available to them.

Another judge ordered the district attorney to pass over evidence which it had deemed irrelevant. However, yesterday Avi-Yitzhak and Weinstein still claimed that all of the evidence is not in their hands and asked for the trial to start after the summer recess.

After minor objections by the District Attorney's representative, Rafi Levy, Judge George Kara agreed to start the trial in September in order to give the lawyers time to examine hundreds of files and tape recordings. Some 50 hearing dates have been set, ending in April 1997.

Defense lawyers also said yesterday that they retain their right to change their clients' pleas to certain charges if necessary at a later stage. They also said they would petition the High Court of Justice to examine the evidence which Internal Security Minister Moshe Shahal deemed classified.

**Settler sentenced for trying to force Sarid off road**

OHAD Barat, the Elkana man convicted of trying to run Environment Minister Yossi Sarid off the road last August, was given a two-year suspended sentence by Tel Aviv District Court yesterday, after he promised to apologize to Sarid. Judge Edna Kaplan also fined him NIS 5,000 and banned him from driving for two years.

Barat was driving on the Ayalon highway from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv when he noticed Sarid's car. According to the charge sheet, he tried to run him off the road several times, and made obscene gestures. Sarid called in Barat's license plate to police, who arrested him when he reached Tel Aviv.

Raine Marcus



Gabriel Strenger koshers his pots for pessah outside a synagogue in East Talpott, Jerusalem as his son, Natan, helps out. (Joe Malcolin)

## Passport workers end sanctions

HAIM SHAPIRO

INTERIOR Ministry officials who issue passports went back to work yesterday, after reaching an agreement with the Finance Ministry at the Jerusalem District Labor Court.

The workers had begun a go-slow strike last week and stopped work altogether on Tuesday, keeping would-be travelers who had forgotten to renew their passports from leaving the country. The ministry said those who had submitted requests for new or renewed passports before the go-slow strike would receive them by mail.

During the holiday, ministry offices are to be closed, as they are every year, but emergency passport services are to be available at the ministry offices in Afula, Ramat Gan, and Rishon LeZion.

## Green groups ready to receive hikers

LIAT COLLINS

PACK your matza sandwiches, water bottles, and hats and hit the hills, woods, and parks for scores of Pessah activities being hosted by environmental groups. The Nature Reserves Authority is operating information booths for daytrippers at major junctions throughout the country and also has a "Green Line" - (02) 500-5431 or (02) 500-5430 - which will offer information on different sites.

As in previous years, the NRA is running a treasure hunt in some nature reserves. A number of sites have been adapted for the disabled.

The Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel has prepared several guided tours and events, many of which are free, for Pessah vacationers. Details on its activities can be heard on its "Natural Information" line: (03) 638-8696.

The National Parks Authority is also gearing up for visitors. Many national parks will have special events such as performances, concerts, and art workshops. One of its main attractions will be at Tzipori on Sunday and Monday, where visitors can meet with hosts in period costumes. The NPA's 24-hour hot-

set up information booths at several major junctions with details on facilities and activities in woods and forests.

All the green groups are reminding hikers to stick to marked paths, be careful with fire, and leave no litter.

A number of accidents have occurred recently due to hikers' negligence. The NRA suggests precautions such as being equipped with a map; checking the duration of excursions to avoid getting stuck in the dark; taking between two and five liters of water per person; not entering wadis on cloudy days when flash floods are possible; and leaving details of the planned route.

Haim Shapiro adds:

A special Pessah treat is in store for stargazers tonight, with a total eclipse of the moon. According to Yigal Pat-El, chairman of the Israel Astronomy Association, the eclipse is to begin at 1:20 a.m. and reach its peak at 3:09 a.m.

Despite the tension along the Lebanese border, Moshe Atia, director of the Upper Galilee Tourism Association, reports that hotels, guest houses, and homes

### WEATHER

Forecast: Partly cloudy to clear.  
Thursday: Rise in temperatures.

### AROUND THE WORLD

City	Temp	Wind	Cloud
Amman	18-22	10-15	partly
Berlin	12-18	10-15	partly
Bombay	28-32	10-15	partly
Buenos Aires	12-18	10-15	partly
Cairo	22-28	10-15	partly
Chicago	4-10	10-15	partly
Colombo	28-32	10-15	partly
Dublin	8-12	10-15	partly
Hong Kong	22-28	10-15	partly
London	8-12	10-15	partly
Los Angeles	18-22	10-15	partly
Madrid	12-18	10-15	partly
Moscow	4-10	10-15	partly
New York	4-10	10-15	partly
Paris	8-12	10-15	partly
Rome	12-18	10-15	partly
Tel Aviv	18-20	10-15	partly
Tokyo	12-18	10-15	partly
Zurich	8-12	10-15	partly

### Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayim daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the ace of spades, nine of hearts, ace of diamonds, and ten of clubs.

### Winning numbers

In last night's weekly Loto drawing, the winning numbers were 6, 12, 14, 15, 25, 38 and the additional number was 44.

## Norway probes confiscation of Jewish property

BATSHEVA TSUR

THE Norwegian government has set up a commission of inquiry into the confiscation by the Quisling government of Jewish property during World War II.

In a letter to World Jewish Congress president Edgar Bronfman, the secretary-general of the Norwegian foreign ministry, Kjell Colding, wrote that his government would "spare no effort to clear this case." Colding said the commission would present its findings to the ministry of justice within a year.

Colding said that the commission had a mandate to look into the events both during and after the war.

It is believed that property belonging to the small Jewish community of Norway and confiscated during the war runs into tens of millions of dollars, WJC secretary-general Avi Bekker said yesterday. He said the Quisling government had established a commission to liquidate the property which regularly held auctions of Jewish assets.

The seven-man independent committee set up this week will be headed by a retired judge, Oluf Skarpmoen, and will include two representatives chosen by the Oslo Jewish community.

One of these representatives is Bjarte Bruland, 26, who as a student at Bergen University three years ago decided to write an MA thesis on the economic implications of the confiscation of the Jews' property. He has accumulated vast quantities of hitherto uncollected data.

Bruland's research was published in June last year by the Norwegian economic paper, *Dagens Naeringsliv*, and the matter was raised in the parliament in Oslo.

In September 1995, WJC and Jewish Agency representatives, together with the local Jewish community, raised the issue with the Norwegian foreign ministry. The letter to Bronfman came in response to these contacts.

There were close to 2,000 Jews living in Norway during the period of the Quisling regime. Some 750 were sent to the death camps where all but a dozen or so perished. The remainder were evacuated to safety in Sweden. Today the Jewish community of Norway numbers some 1,200.

Bekker expressed satisfaction with the decision, saying that it was of great importance both to the international effort on behalf of confiscated Jewish property and to Norway's role as an important player in the Middle East today.

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